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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

No. 2222

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CONTENTS

PAGE

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Meeting With Young African Jurists Reported
(Raymond Morineau; DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE, 28 Jan 80)..... 1

Benin-Upper Volta Border Demarcation Commission Established
(Ouagadougou Domestic Service, 22 Feb 80)..... 5

Necessity of African News Agency Discussed
(Gilbert Mawarire; TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 20 Feb 80)..... 8

Briefs
African Intelsat Group Conference 12
Angola, Tunisia Establish Relations 12
Zambia Seeks Uhuru Tape 12

ANGOLA

Briefs
Agreement With FAO 13

ETHIOPIA

Briefs
Report on Raids 14

GHANA

Reader Laments Editorial on U.S. Hostages
(GHANAIAN TIMES, 7 Feb 80)..... 15

Rejection of Moscow Olympics Boycott Urged
(Editorial; GHANAIAN TIMES, 7 Feb 80)..... 16

Government Urged To Preserve State Enterprises
(Editorial; GHANAIAN TIMES, 8 Feb 80)..... 17

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

Briefs
Assets Declared by 575 19
Fish Cargo 'Mystery' Solved 19

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Continues To Criticize Corruption, Bureaucracy
(NOTICIAS, 31 Jan 80)..... 20

Acute Shortage of Processed Milk Blamed on Bureaucracy
(NOTICIAS, 4 Feb 80)..... 22

Briefs
Poor Hygienic Conditions 24
GDR Foreign Trade Training 24
Beira Hotel Industry Scored 25

RHODESIA

Reportage on Election Observers
(THE HERALD, 26 Feb 80)..... 26

Lancaster Agreements Challenged
Plans for Free Poll
To Increase Activities

Details on Election Operation Given
(THE HERALD, various dates)..... 29

Less Problems Seen
Polling Station Guide
Right To Vote Emphasized
Vote Counting Plans
Fifty-six Districts
Rural Teams

Party Leaders' Last Pre-poll Statements Reported
(Robert Mugabe, et al., Interview; THE HERALD,
27 Feb 80)..... 35

Commentary on End of Campaign, Security Measures
(Editorials; THE HERALD, 27 Feb 80)..... 39

Governor's 'Personal Guarantee' of Secrecy
(THE HERALD, 27 Feb 80)..... 41

CONTENTS (Continued

Page

Sithole Hits Back at Nyerere
(THE HERALD, 26 Feb 80)..... 42

ZIPRA Begins To Train With SF
(THE HERALD, 26 Feb 80)..... 43

Security Forces Start Move Into Camps
(THE HERALD, 27 Feb 80)..... 46

Fenn Statement
Further Details

Revitalization of Obva Business Center Reported
(THE HERALD, 26 Feb 80)..... 49

Briefs
SFA Reconstruction Record 50
Forces Have Eight Contacts 50
Ballot Boxes Guarded 50
ZANLA Intimidation 51
Future of CMF 51
Terrorism Decreasing 51
Vital Installations Guarded 52
Mugabe Home Guarded 52
Pensions Act 52
Education Costs 52
RSF Contacts 52

SOMALIA

Briefs
U.S. Troops' Arrival Denied 53

TANZANIA

Briefs
Famine Threat 54

ZAIRE

Briefs
Industrial Crops 55
Copper Export Prices 55
PETROZAIRE Development 56

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

ZAMBIA

MP's Call for Foreign Policy Changes
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 21 Feb 80)..... 57

Success of Zambianization Plan in Question
(ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, 18 Feb 80)..... 59

MEETING WITH YOUNG AFRICAN JURISTS REPORTED

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 28 Jan 80 pp 80-81

[Article by Raymond Morineau: "Thoughts About African Law"]

[Text] On 12 January the Association of Young African Jurists (AJJAF) held its first general assembly in Paris in one of the rooms at the Paris-Sorbonne University. One hundred fifteen persons attended. Thus the old and praiseworthy ambition of several young African jurists who are pursuing their studies in the French capital was realized. The young leaders of the association are leaders because of age, but the adjective in the name of the newly-created organization does not refer to the number of years, I am told by the president, Charles-Marie Tchoungang, a Cameroonian and a 25-year-old of remarkable maturity. "It's a juridical youth we want to call forth," he says. "A new, young way of viewing the law for Africans."

AJJAF was set up in several stages. A student group that met in Paris on 6 February 1979 determined the principle for its founding. A request for authorization was made to the French minister of the Interior the following 16 March and the association, which was founded on the 21st of the same month, was officially authorized by decree (of the minister of the Interior) on 12 November 1979.

The long interview I had with Charles-Marie Tchoungang and the vice president, Masamba Makela, a Zairian, enabled me to measure the authority and competence of AJJAF's young leaders. They are visibly serving the cause that they are defending and that they reported to me with a grand passion which, curiously and fortunately, is allied with a very exacting concern for precision, with an extremely serious deepening of reflection and an adroit handling of abstractions.

They explained to me how certain established facts led them to take this initiative. First of all--and this does not concern jurists alone--African students, ignorant of the rules regulating their status, encounter difficulties in their contacts with the university administration. In addition, they suffer misunderstandings engendered by a difference in attitude. Away from his African context the student, who feels uprooted, looks for contact with his brothers.

"But," Charles-Marie Tchoungang continues, "we are worried about the brain drain. That is a problem whose solution requires that information be circulated between the countries concerned and jurists in training." Therefore the founders of AJJAF felt the need for a reception structure capable of informing the jurist about the fate awaiting him in his own country.

"It means going farther, seeking the cause of the brain drain." And very didactically they enumerate a series of grave and pertinent questions: "Today in Africa, can a jurist really practise his profession? Does the attorney, for example, have the benefit of all the guarantees of independence indispensable to the practice of his profession? Can a law professor make a free judgment, objectively analyze the different legal standards existing in his country? Can the magistrate legitimately, in total independence of all authorities, dispense an equitable justice?" And in conclusion, "The reason for the desertion of the African juridical area is that for many African states these questions can't be answered affirmatively."

In the view of these young jurists the basic problem of the law in Africa is the discrepancy between the norm, derived from the colonial order, and the realities of the various African countries. In a way they feel they are placed in an awkward position. "African law," they say, "is essentially static, turned toward the past. It is respect for the common ancestor that legitimizes the power of the chief of the social group in traditional African society. It follows that certain institutions of modern law that get their reason for being from their long life have no place in the traditional political order. Thus in modern law the idea of stipulation, of the authority of the thing judged, does not belong to traditional law. To the African who respects tradition, time can do nothing against truth." However, AJJAF's founders believe that for all that, African law is not ossified, that it is "dynamic and evolutionary."

Believing that development problems are being presented at the triple political, economic and social level, they deduce from this that, ipso facto, the jurist's action is located at the first level. In short, the African jurist must determine norms adapted to the new socio-economic demands.

And to do that, it is important that he engage in more profound reflection on his own science. Charles-Marie Tchoungang says, "We want to create a genuine epistemology of the law in Africa, since, moreover, everything is ruled by norms. The epistemological progress of the law doesn't exist in Africa. For any science to be born, certain basic objective conditions need to be realized, on which it can be supported. We live in a police society. Everything is regulated. Since the law's vocation is to regulate everything, it must be the expression of a social need. Now, in Africa the objective conditions for the appearance of the norm don't exist. Or rather, they exist but they are not taken into account, if not deliberately ignored. It follows that the jurist's present duty is to be aware of these concerns and to sensitize leaders at all levels to the imperious need for respect for the norm."

And that leads us right straight to politics. However, Art 23 of AJJAF stipulates: "AJJAF abstains from all political activity." The ambition of the

association's leaders is apparently to have the law escape the too-frequent encroachments of immediate politics. They continually stress the independence of justice. "In Africa," one of them said to me, "one may legitimately ask himself the question: is there a genuine African legalism, in the profoundest sense of the word?"

Of course he then raises the problem of freedoms. The founders of AJJAF are not evading the responsibilities of jurists. "You can only talk about freedom in a legal context. You can't talk about freedom without talking about law." For this reason, they discern in the jurist's function a kind of somewhat agonizing contradiction. In fact, he must objectively protect the rights of individuals, that is, keep watch over respect for freedoms. On the other hand, "he has to be very careful not to make the law an instrument of politician politics."

Meanwhile, AJJAF headquarters is in Paris*, and the nucleus around which will gather, we hope, most of the nationals "from an African state who are able to prove they are in legal training" and persons "who have done research or work in African law," is made up of graduate students. They are hoping that, for his jurist training, the African student will increasingly choose specific theses dealing with African law. It is in fact unnatural and sterile for an African graduate student to present a thesis on French law.

About this situation the AJJAF leaders are especially clear. "We are asking the leaders of the African countries," the president told me, "to be aware of the fact that the social sciences cannot be validly taught except in their true context. One or two decades from now there should be no more African students who leave their countries to go and train as jurists abroad. Which of course doesn't at all rule out recourse to international cooperation." The specificity of this necessary African training of the jurist, according to the people I talked with, comes from the fact that two laws coexist in Africa: customary law and written law (modern or derived). These two laws work side by side. "Now," they say, "we are pleading for a synthesis of both laws."

How were these new ideas received in university and juridical circles? The founders of AJJAF have had the happy surprise of seeing that the "grey eminences" of the law in France, the research directors, have listened to them with interest and sympathy. Some have agreed to sponsor the association, promising to support them, some signing the association's bylaws, others sending letters of support. The sponsors are Professors Ardant, Badinter, Bredin, Colliard, Dupuis, Gavalda, Guyon, Lagarde, de Laubadere, Levy, Lyon-Caen and Parleani.

"Several professors who had participating in writing certain African constitutions," the president and vice president tell me, "have told us it was time this awakening took place. They are aware that the constitutions whose writing they participated in are ill-adapted to African reality, and our approach to African law is of the greatest interest to them. We have also contacted African professors practising in Africa, notably Boye Abdel Kader, a professor at the University of Dakar, and director of the Center for Research and

*Mail address: 12, place du Pantheon, 75005 Paris. Social headquarters: s/c Mr Tchoungang, 21 bis, rue Lord-Byron, 75008 Paris.

Documentation on African Institutions and Legislation (CREDILA). We are also in with certain African political authorities, notably the minister of Justice for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mme Kamanda. We are also in contact with the African universities and the African embassies in Paris."

And so it seems that a number of fairies are leaning over the cradle of the Association of Young African Jurists.

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CSO: 4400

BENIN-UPPER VOLTA BORDER DEMARCATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED

AB231200 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 22 Feb 80 AB

[Excerpts] The minister of interior and security, Mr Daouda Traore, returned to Ouagadougou barely 2 hours ago from Cotonou where he cohaired the constitutive meeting of the joint Benin-Upper Volta commission for the demarcation of borders in conjunction with the Beninese minister of public works, building and housing, Mr Gado (Gyirigyiso).

Soon after the beginning of the meeting on 18 February, emphasis was laid on the links between the two countries which are condemned to cooperate closely in all fields for the economic, social and cultural good of the Upper Volta and Beninese people. Thus the visit of Minister Daouda Traore has both political and technical aspects.

This meeting enabled the two ministers to reinforce the friendly and brotherly links between our two countries. Likewise, their on the spot contact--last Wednesday at (Niambouly)--with the people in this border area helped to promote better understanding between the people of this area, an understanding which the government officials of both countries stationed in the area have also helped to promote in an atmosphere of dialog and brotherliness.

The second aspect of the visit which is technical, was the careful examination by experts of the main items on the agenda, notably the bill instituting the Benin-Upper Volta joint commission for the demarcation of borders, the composition, duties and operation of the commission and the adoption of documents compiled at the meeting.

A final communique was issued at the end of the meeting and is read by Mr Souleymane Diallo, director of political affairs in the Ministry of Interior and the person in charge of borders.

[Begin Diallo recording] Final communique: In accordance with the common desire of the Government of the Republic of Upper Volta and the National Executive Council of the People's Republic of Benin to consolidate and promote cooperation between their people in an atmosphere of peace and harmony, and also, in accordance with the Beninese ministerial meeting held in

[word indistinct] on 28 September 1979, on one hand, and with the meeting of experts in the Upper Volta capital from 28 November to 3 December on the other, the Benin-Upper Volta joint commission was inaugurated on Tuesday 19 February, 1980 and its first meeting was held in Cotonou from Tuesday 19 February to Friday 22 February 1980. The Upper Volta delegation was led by his excellency, Mr Daouda Traore, minister of interior and security of the Republic of Upper Volta, minister of the (?trust territories) of the national commission for the demarcation of borders. The delegation of the People's Republic of Benin was led by Comrade Gado (Gyirigyiso), minister of public works, building and housing chairman of the Beninese national commission for the demarcation of frontiers, who was assisted by Comrade Vincent Guezodje, minister of interior and public security.

The work of the commission was mainly on the examination of the following texts: The draft agreement on the demarcation of the borders between the People's Republic of Benin and the Republic of Upper Volta; the draft treaty on the composition, duties and running of the joint commission for the demarcation of frontiers between the Republic of Upper Volta and the People's Republic of Benin.

The draft agreement and the draft treaty were adopted by the commission [words indistinct]. The adoption and the signing of these two documents signify the official creation of the joint commission for the demarcation of borders, in accordance with the desires of his excellency, Mr Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana, president of the Republic of Upper Volta, and his excellency, Comrade Matthieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin.

Mr Daouda Traore, minister of interior and security of the Republic of Upper Volta and Comrade Gado (Gyirigyiso), minister of interior and public security of the People's Republic of Benin, went to the village of (Niambouly) on the border area, from Wednesday 20 February to Thursday 21 February 1980 to meet the local population.

During his visit to Benin, the Upper Volta interior minister was received by Comrade Matthieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin to whom he transmitted a verbal message from President Sangoule Lamizana. On behalf of his delegation, his excellency, Mr Daouda Traore, thanked the Beninese people, the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, the National Executive Council and President Matthieu Kerekou for the warm and brotherly welcome and hospitality given them during their stay in the People's Republic of Benin.

Signed in Cotonou on Friday 22 February, 1980 by Daouda Traore, minister of interior and security, on behalf of the Upper Volta delegation, and Gado (Gyirigyiso), minister of public works, building and housing, on behalf of the Beninese delegation. [End recording]

[AB231225] In his speech after the release of the final communique, Minister Daouda Traore said that there was no doubt about the successful outcome of the meeting and that the success was due to the will of our people who, in spite of the fact that they were arbitrarily separated by the colonialists, have decided to live together as they have always done since time immemorial. He also underlined that our essential aim and our constant worry should be to insure the happiness of our people and the protection of our freedom and our sovereignty.

[Begin Traore recording] [Sentence indistinct] Our brief stay in your beautiful country has enabled us to see and understand that the People's Republic of Benin is resolutely engaged in the struggle against all forms of alienation in order to safeguard its independence and sovereignty. Everywhere we went we met people who are bent on overcoming underdevelopment and are convinced of the necessity to fight wildly against all the enemies of Africa.

Coming back to the aim of our meeting, I would like to repeat that the nationalization of a frontier does not imply the separation of people. On the contrary it facilitates cohabitation because once everyone knows his limits an atmosphere of harmony will prevail, and it also promotes understanding between people. Long live cooperation between Benin and Upper Volta, long live African unity. [End recording]

In his closing speech, Minister Gado (Gyirigyiso) said he was pleased with the successful outcome of the meeting and recalled that the two countries were condemned to cooperate closely in all fields.

[Begin Gado recording] Our people in the Republic of Upper Volta and the People's Republic of Benin are condemned to cooperate closely in all fields, that is, in the economic social and cultural fields. [Words indistinct] for 20 years now our two states have belonged to sub-regional and regional organizations such as the Entente Council, for example. Their relations are guided by the spirit of African unity which we call the [word indistinct] prevailed during the meeting. We hope that future meetings will contribute essentially to the reinforcement and the promotion of our relations of neighborliness. [sentence indistinct]

Mr Minister, head of the Upper Volta delegation, once more I would like to wish you and all the members of your delegation a pleasant time during the last moments of your stay in this free African country which is the People's Republic of Benin. It is on this note that I declare the end of the meeting of the Benin-Upper Volta joint commission. Long live the growing cooperation between the sister Republic of Upper Volta and the People's Republic of Benin and long live African unity. Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues. [End recording]

The next meeting of the commission will be held in the second half of 1980 in Ouagadougou.

CSO: 4400

NECESSITY OF AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY DISCUSSED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 Feb 80 p 4

[Article by Gilbert Mawarire]

[Text] As those who consider themselves to be among the elite in Zambian journalism trooped out at the end of interviews at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services some time last year, each of them must have been praying to get the job.

Not that anyone can blame them. The job being advertised offers K13,000 per annum with all the benefits and allowances which go with a posting in the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

So attractive was the prospect of hooking the job, that a very close personal and professional friend of mine gave me a 30-minute recital in a pub why he thinks he is the right man for the OAU journalist being sought.

But it is not the job, however, which is important. It is the organization which has been set up by the OAU that is offering the job. This is the Pan African News Agency-PANA.

The Pan African News Agency, which comes into operation in July, is designed to change the current serious imbalance in the flow of international news particularly among African countries.

As in other fields, the flow of news in Africa is still dominated by Western-owned news agencies, and radio networks.

The situation is so bad that a news story emanating from Nairobi, Salisbury, Lagos, Lubumbashi or Zomba cannot, get to Lusaka unless it passes through London, Washington, Brussels, Lisbon or Paris.

This is because 90 per cent of international news is controlled by Western news agencies and networks and by necessity, their headquarters in their respective capitals have to "approve" the news before it is telexed back where it came from – Africa.

It is like hearing what goes on in your backyard garden from your neighbour.

And because the West controls the international flow of information, it is logical that they will fill up the telexes in a lot of cases, with news which is of interest to them.

For example, the foreign news desks of newspapers and agencies in Zambia and elsewhere are currently being bombarded with news about the Russian invasion of Afghanistan and the crisis in Iran.

This is because the news coverage about the problems in that region is done by one or all of the following major organisations – Reuters, Agence France Presse, Associated Press, United Press International or the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Crisis

The amount of copy sent by the big internationals on the Iranian and Afghan crisis which began last year, can compete with the amount of stories sent by the same internationals on the Rhodesian war for example which began seven years ago and in which 20,000 lives have been lost.

It follows, therefore, that it is true to say that the average Zambian newspaper reader, for instance, is more conversant with these two areas of conflict than he does of the crisis in Chad or the war between Morocco and Polisario guerrillas.

Apart from this, when we do get news about other African countries, it is always the negative aspects – such as fighting, coups, disasters, repression and hunger. All the stories about development, stability and so on are considered not newsworthy.

For example, one country in Africa which used to hit the headlines almost every day during most of the last decade was Uganda.

And this was because Idi Amin did all the bad things. This also went for the Central African despot Jean Bedel Bokassa.

It was with this kind of background that the OAU mooted the idea of having its own agency which would disseminate information to all African countries on what is happening in Africa.

At a recent meeting of the Inter-Governmental Council of African Ministers of Information held in Luanda, Angola, recently, it was decided that PANA should start transmitting information in July this year.

A four-nation committee was formed and charged with the task of studying the financial problems related to the accelerated timetable of opening which is ahead by four years of the original 1984 deadline envisaged by experts of the pilot phase.

Zambia was represented by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services Mr Mark Tambatamba who was accompanied by the Acting Editor-in-Chief of the Zambia News Agency, Mr Komani Kachinga.

The organisation will be headquartered in Addis Ababa with regional headquarters in Lusaka, Lagos, Nairobi, Tripoli, and Kinshasa.

It will be headed by a first director as its chief executive, a deputy and the chief editor.

The agency will need at least K9 million initial operating capital and the forthcoming Sierra Leone OAU heads of state summit is expected to vote necessary funds.

In as much as there are advantages in setting up this noble agency, there are also certain problems which it will face.

One of these will be whether the agency will be allowed to distribute negative stories about the repressive regimes in certain member countries of the OAU who are PANA donors.

As expected the Western Press has made a big issue out of this saying that such an agency would not report freely and fairly as its allegiance will be to the donor countries.

it will be interesting to note whether or not there will be a clause regarding this point in the organisation's blueprint when finally approved by the Freetown summit.

Interests

PANA's concept was said to be that of a "truly Pan-African one" defending the interests of each country.

Whatever its shortcomings, the idea of PANA will go a long way in further decolonising the Africa continent as this information stranglehold by Western countries is another form of neo-colonialism.

As said by Mozambican Minister of Information at the Luanda meeting: "The African peoples gain their knowledge of their realities through eyes which are not the eyes of Africa.

"We do know that many countries in Africa are, unhappily, still neo-colonised.

"We must ensure co-operation between the various states so that this imperialist domination of news cannot be materialised."

Meanwhile, Wellington Kalwata reports that:

Meanwhile, the 13 English-speaking countries in the Caribbean, with organisational and planning help from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) began the operations of CANA – the Caribbean News Agency – in 1975, in conjunction with Reuters of Britain. It became an independent regional agency in 1976 and now comprises 17 media institutions, some public and others private.

In Asia, at the 1977 Colombo meeting of Asian news agencies, it was decided to carry out a feasibility study looking towards establishment of an Asia news exchange network.

The Western media, as sensitive as ever, aware that politics and communications are inseparable as strengthening of the latter benefits the former,

had, by and large, initially resisted the demands from the Third World for a fairer presentation in the world media.

But the determined efforts on the part of the Third World countries have succeeded in changing slightly the initial Western resistance. This has been evident from Western pronouncements at recent UNESCO meetings and the declared willingness of most governments of the West to extend help for strengthening news organisations in developing countries. They are willing to engage in an information "North-South" dialogue.

It was, in fact, UNESCO which took the initiative to check the information imbalance way back in September 1978 when its General Assembly set up an International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems.

Report

The Commission, under the chairmanship of Ireland's Mr Sean MacBride, a holder of the Nobel and Lenin Peace prizes and founder of Amnesty International, is due to present its final report for implementation to the General Conference of UNESCO at its 21st session this year. An interim report on the Commission's findings has since been under study by various related agencies at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

Members of the commission, later known simply as the "MacBride Commission," included four representatives from Africa--Alebe Ma Ekonzo, director-general of Agence Zaire-Presse; Mustapha Masmoundi, the then Sudanese President of the nonaligned countries intergovernmental coordinating council for information; Nigeria's Fred Omu, former head of the Department of Communications at the University of Lagos and Gamal el Oteifi (Egypt), former Minister of Information and Culture and honorary professor at Cairo University.

Most of the Commission's findings confirmed the fears expressed by Third World countries and, if implemented this year, would go a long way in persuading the Western media to join forces with developing countries in working towards a New World Information Order as a basis for effectively implementing the New World Economic Order.

The interim report in fact highlights the need for such inter-dependence of all countries' media - developed or developing: "The role of communications in international affairs is important, not to say vital, in providing information which the community requires, particularly about problems common to mankind and whose solutions cannot be achieved without concerted international effort. Isolated measures, or action taken by some while others remain indifferent, cannot build the New International Economic Order.

"The inter-dependence of all countries is unquestioned in today's world, and the media have an essential responsibility to highlight this linkage and the common fate shared by all mankind." says the interim report.

The report continues that "given the gravity of the world's problems - their depth, span and persistence on the international as well as the national spheres - many today are exhorting communication professionals to use their powerful media to develop a broader social consciousness, to inform all people of their mutual dependence, the common perils which they face and their goals which they seek."

With direct reference to the developing countries the MacBride Commission's interim report sums up that in most of these nations the power to inform frequently lies in the hands of the minority who control the instruments of communication, and the flow is organised vertically, operating in a one-way direction. The media transmit to the values and norms which the dominant group considers to be best suited to ensuring its survival to a public which, in large measure, fails to find therein a reflection of its own life-styles and aspirations.

"In many instances, the information formulated by professional communicators descend upon a receptive public which is in no way encouraged to participate but rather to be and remain passive."

It can be said, therefore, that Africa has for too long sat passively as the West churned its information on a continent that did not realise and recognise that this imbalance was just another way of maintaining Western supremacy. This then is the time for all the African journalists to team up and counter-act the Western forces of "information imperialism."

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

AFRICAN INTELSAT GROUP CONFERENCE--Libreville 29 Feb (AFP)--The 8th conference of the second African group to the Council of Governors of Intelsat opened on Thursday in Libreville in the presence of delegates from Senegal, Mali, the Central African Republic, the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Gabon, as well as observers from Togo and Niger. The agenda of this meeting, which is presided over by Dr Herve Moutsinga, Gabonese minister of tourism and land management, includes the revision of internal regulations, regrouping member countries on the same satellite, the possibility of setting up an African regional satellite for telecommunication needs. [Text] [AB291600 Paris AFP in French 1525 GMT 29 Feb 80 AB]

ANGOLA, TUNISIA ESTABLISH RELATIONS--Luanda, 28 Feb (AFP)--Angola and Tunisia today established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, the Angolan news agency, ANGOP reported, quoting authoritative sources. [Text] [AB281905 Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT 28 Feb 80 AB]

ZAMBIA SEEKS UHURU TAPE--Zambia has asked Ghana to give her a copy of a tape containing the proceedings of the All Africa Peoples Conference held in Accra in December 1958. The tape is needed in the writing of Zambia's struggle for independence and the request has been made through the Ghanaian high commission to Zambia, curator of the national political museum, Mr Alfred Mofya, announced yesterday. The Accra conference was chaired by Ghana's first president the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah and was attended among others by President Kaunda, President Kamuzu Banda of Malawi and Zambian veteran politician Mr Harry Nkumbula. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 19 Feb 80 p 5]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH FAO--Luanda, 28 Jan--An agreement providing for aid in the amount of $150,000 was signed Sunday by Eduardo Saouma, director general of the FAO, representing that organization, and Angola's Agriculture Minister Manual Pacavira. Granted to Angola within the framework of technical cooperation, the money will be used for the vaccination of cattle, which Angola is expected to begin this year. Approached by ANGOP shortly before his departure, Saouma said that, in the course of his stay, his delegation had a long meeting with the Angolan minister of agriculture and his closest collaborators. The director general added that during the meeting they reviewed Angola's situation and the problems it faces in restoring its economy. In this context, Saouma explained that agriculture also has reference to fishing and animal husbandry. [Excerpts] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Jan 80 p 6] 6362

CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

REPORT ON RAIDS--Cairo, Feb. 27 (MENA)--The Ethiopian Air Force, under Soviet instigation, raided Somali towns in the country's depth on February 21 and 22, killing eight persons, wounding twenty-nine others, and inflicting wide-scale damage, the Somali charge d'affaires here reported today. The Somali diplomat, Abdel Salam Adam, said in a press release that the raids were part of the Soviet Union's expansionist scheme, which starts from Afghanistan, goes across Aden and the Gulf state into Somalia. The latest raids were part of a series of bombing operations by the Ethiopian Air Force against Somalia during the past three months, said Adam. He added that the Somali Government has reported these raids to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and President William Tolbert, current president of the Organization of African Unity, as well as the Egyptian Government. He appealed to all friendly countries to back up Somalia in its struggle against these threats, adding that Somalia might be facing a serious attack. [Text] [NC271916 Cairo MENA in English 1820 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC]

CSO: 4420

READER LAMENTS EDITORIAL ON U. S. HOSTAGES

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 7 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] Your Editorial of 24-1-80 on Parliament's motion calling for the release of the American hostages is unfortunate.

There is no evidence anywhere to support the continued capacity of the diplomats. Locally it is wrong to detain a son of a Secretary-receiver who has misapplied State fund and has ran away. The son of course cannot suffer for the father's sins.

To break all accepted diplomatic rules and hold diplomats as hostages for over 60 (sixty) days is against human rights.

Unless States recognize and respect diplomatic immunity, very soon holding diplomats captive will be the order of the day and that will be equal to kidnapping or hi-jacking of planes. It will finally lead to showing of military strength and the end result is obvious.

What will be the reaction of the editorial if any of our diplomats abroad is held captive until we rescind our "Yentua doctrine" and pay our last pesewa to our creditor nations?

Is it because it does not affect a Ghanaian and so should not engage the attention of the Parliamentarians who are acting on humanitarian grounds?

The situation looks like America versus Iran but any reaction by America will affect Ghana and developing nations in the long run.

Whether Iran has a genuine claim against the Shah or not, holding the diplomats hostage is not the answer.

Let us respect conventions and beware in our support for barbarity.

Sam Yeboah, Accra

CSO: 4420

REJECTION OF MOSCOW OLYMPICS BOYCOTT URGED

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 7 Feb 80 p 2

[Editorial: "A Lesson for All"]

[Text] When African States decided to boycott the last Olympic Games in Canada on a political issue, the United States and her friends chose to ignore the action.

A section of the Western press even went as far as to describe the decision as an irresponsible act.

In silence, Africans bore the insults and went ahead with the boycott, without sending out white emissaries to campaign for their cause.

But, surprisingly, barely four years after what was regarded as an irresponsible act, the United States is now vigorously taking the same course of action against the Olympic Games, this time in Moscow, for political reasons.

And as part of the campaign, the Great Mohammed Ali himself, has been hired to undertake an African tour to convince his Black brothers to tow the Washington line.

In an embarrassing manner, Ali has openly confessed that his mission is futile.

Now, the Association of National Olympic Committee meeting in Mexico has rejected the call for the boycott and asked its 141-member countries to participate in the Moscow Games.

This is a great lesson for all. The rest of the world can no longer allow themselves to be used as a pawn in the Cold War.

After all, we live in a world of give-and-take. We cannot now give out what the United States refused to give us in 1976.

CSO: 4420

GOVERNMENT URGED TO PRESERVE STATE ENTERPRISES

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 8 Feb 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Anti-State Campaign Again!"]

[Text] After the overthrow of the Nkrumah Government, all investments in state enterprises, including farm projects, were described as wasteful ventures by the economic experts who found themselves in the frontline of the new leadership.

As a result, some promising state concerns were auctioned and others were simply abandoned to rot.

The doctrine at that time was "to hell with the state, affluence to the private capitalist".

A few years later, many Ghanaians realized, to their chagrin, that a fast one had been pulled on them and regretted their failure not to have earlier detected the naked fraud wreaked on the country by the "clever" ones.

Many were those who swore not to support again any repetition of such unpatriotic and fraudulent acts which robbed the state and placed the booty in the pockets of a few individuals.

Once again, there are signs of the anti-state elements bull-dozing their way to sprinkle dust in the eyes of the people and paint state ventures black.

As usual, investments in state enterprises are being made to appear as moneys thrown to the wind.

Little attention is paid to the fact that many projects do not start yielding profits from the very day they are started.

Problems

There are the usual initial teething problems, and even in the absence of that, capital takes time to repay itself.

For example, the oil-palm plantation or cocoa farmer who expects to make profit within the first year of operation must be day-dreaming. It takes time for his crops to mature.

We therefore wish to caution the Government not to yield to any external or internal pressures to abandon its duty to protect state enterprises in favour of private ventures, which only tend to widen the gap between the rich and the masses.

We submit that this is no time for wasteful witch-hunting. It is time for a planned economy in which targets should be set so that the people would know whether they are progressing or retrogressing.

The people of this country have spent too long a time raking the past instead of ploughing new fields.

And this is mainly due to the self-imposed fear of being realistic and treading the path that would lead to the emancipation of the majority of the people.

We are firm in the belief that the present administration is capable of pursuing the Nkrumaist policies it promised the nation and save the common man from undue exploitation by his neighbour.

It is only through such policies that the crude form of the anti-socialist ideology being practised in the name of "gye na bu" and others can be crushed once and for all.

Time is not on our side!

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

ASSETS DECLARED BY 575--Five hundred and seventy-five persons holding public office have so far declared their assets to the Auditor-General, in compliance with provisions of Article 205 of the Constitution. These include members of the Judiciary, the Executive, Parliament and top civil servants, the Auditor-General, Mr Ahenkora-Osei disclosed in Accra yesterday. He was commenting on an allegation by the National Progressive Union that only President Limann and the Vice-President, Dr. de Graft-Johnson, had declared their assets since the present Government assumed office. Asked of the possibility of publishing their names, Mr. Ahenkora-Osei explained that he was not empowered by the Constitution to do that. All that the Constitution asks him to do, he said, is to submit the names of those who have so far declared their assets to the President. Mr Ahenkora-Osei said the assets declaration process had no dateline, because persons appointed to occupy certain positions would be required to declare their assets within three months after taking office, at the end of every two years and at the end of their terms of office. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 2 Feb 80 p 1]

FISH CARGO 'MYSTERY' SOLVED--The Action Congress Party yesterday said it had come to its notice that about 2,892 tonnes (about 95,000 cartons) of frozen fish brought in under "mysterious circumstances" by a Russian vessel about three weeks ago belonged to the Ocean Fisheries. The vessel, "Poluana Zori", which called at the Tema port last January 15, has not been allowed entry to discharge its cargo because the Ghana Ports Authority and the Customs and Excise Department have not received the papers and other relevant documents on the fish. In an interview, Mr E. K. Dadson, executive director of Ocean Fisheries, confirmed that the fish had arrived in Ghanaian waters at the instance of the company. Mr Dadson said he had made requests to the Ministries of Trade and Tourism and Agriculture for the necessary import licence to enable the company to take delivery of the fish. He said the company was aware of the scarcity of fish during this time of the year and, therefore, made its own arrangements after it had been informed by the Ministries that the Government was to allocate import licence for importation of fish to supplement local output. Meanwhile, a statement from the USSR Trade Representative in Accra said yesterday that the vessel was freighted by a Swedish firm--'Joint Trawlers'--to transfer the fish to Tema. "The USSR Trade Representative has no information leading to the importer of the fish in Ghana", it said. [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 7 Feb 80 p 3]

CSO: 4420

MACHEL CONTINUES TO CRITICIZE CORRUPTION, BUREAUCRACY

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 31 Jan 80 p 3

[Excerpts] "We have the lion by the tail, and we will not let go; we will carry this to the end. We have the power." So said President Samora Moises Machel day before yesterday at the end of his visit to the warehouses of the APIE [State Furniture Depot] in Maputo. The visit was a part of the offensive against sabotage, incompetence, bureaucracy and apathy. Speaking to hundreds of people who had gathered to greet him on Avenida Eduardo Mondlane, in front of the warehouses, the highest leader of the Mozambican revolution said it had been reported to him day before yesterday that APIE officials had concealed the existence of another warehouse during his first visit to that sector, and he called this very serious. "We are conducting the offensive; they are conducting a counter-offensive," he added.

President Machel commented: "That warehouse was set aside for APIE officials; it is the symbol of corruption." He later added that corrupt APIE employees use the warehouse to furnish their lovers' houses.

As President Machel came out of one of the warehouses, followed by his delegation, he was loudly applauded by the crowd even before he reached the sidewalk.

In an impromptu speech, the president gave a brief account of the Mozambican people's struggle, from the first resistance to the overthrow of colonialism. The chief of state noted: "It is true that we are not yet benefiting from the results of independence, because we have not yet gained economic power, economic independence.

"We are giving priority to education," he said, adding: "There is a lot of illiteracy here, but all Mozambicans, whatever their color, are called upon to use their intelligence to create material goods, to resolve the problems of hunger. It is up to us to resolve all these problems; no one is going to hand us what we want." (Supportive applause.)

The crowd gathered on Avenida Eduardo Mondlane in front of the Charlot cinema continued to listen, interrupting several times with applause, as President Machel spoke further about the situation at APIE.

Describing the degree of corruption in that sector, the highest leader of the Mozambican revolution claimed that there were individuals at APIE who had as many as four lovers, and each of these had an apartment. These apartments were well furnished; they even had telephones in the bathrooms.

"These houses are furnished at the state's expense," the president said, noting that in addition to the fours houses, these individuals had another one for casual meetings with women or to lend to their friends. "The residents of these houses pay no rent; they are the mistresses of APIE administrators."

President Machel added that we have bandits, thieves, saboteurs and incompetents among us and urged the people to report them.

6362
CSO: 4401

ACUTE SHORTAGE OF PROCESSED MILK BLAMED ON BUREAUCRACY

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Feb 80 pp 3, 6

[Excerpts] Since Saturday before last, 26 January, the people of greater Maputo have been deprived of the 22,000 liters of processed vacuum-packed milk which represent their average daily consumption, because of the breakdown of the two packaging machines at the Fabrica de Lacticinios, the only firm specializing in the product. Although the employees of this industrial unit are making every effort to repair the damage, it is unlikely that packaging will be resumed any time soon. Excessive bureaucracy in some government agencies prevented a resolution of the problem while there was still time.

Moreover, large quantities of this type of milk, distributed before the machines were shut down (the resistors in the electrical system burned out), appeared on the market unfit for consumption, and have been rejected.

Abdul Bica, one of the directors of the Cattle Breeders' Cooperative, said the problem could have been caused by a fault in the packaging machines during their final precarious moments in operation. It is thought that, in sealing the packets, the machines could have made tiny perforations, allowing air to enter and causing the milk to spoil even after it had reached the distributor or the consumer.

Another theory offered by Bica to explain the spoilage was that the condition of the milk is generally poor when it comes from the country, a problem which the poorly-maintained machines could not entirely overcome in processing.

This type of milk is widely used, especially by workers on the job, because it is convenient to handle. The shutdown in processing and packaging is the culmination of the entire technical situation under which the firm has been operating for some time, a situation which was noted and promptly reported to the competent agencies, but which has not been resolved to date.

For a better understanding of the events leading to the present situation, let us go back in time; let us look at the reports of the measures taken by the plant to avoid what ultimately occurred on 26 January.

"We Cannot Remain With Our Hands Folded"

Long ago, the firms had seen that the equipment was wearing out and that the stocks of chemical products were low, and it took the necessary steps; that is, it requested authorization to import, since these materials are not produced locally. But the roadblocks were too numerous and too huge for the plant technicians and administrators. The request was passed from agency to agency, but the material was never imported. Time was passing, the stocks were running out and the machines were getting weaker.

The plant was on the brink of shutting down. Knowing what this would mean, the directors understood they could not "fold their hands"; they had to continue to alert the government agencies to surmount the roadblocks.

Those words began one of the many letters written to various agencies by the Cattle Breeders' Cooperative. In an appendix, the letter [dated 15 June] detailed the products needed, the price of purchase abroad, the respective "VRI" numbers--a complete rundown.

We could cite many more examples during the long process. To date, nothing has been done.

Small Problems Become Large Problems For the Country

It is the public, the consumer, who is hurt by this situation.

For the last week, the cafes, restaurants and pastry shops in the capital have not been selling this processed milk or, if they sold it, most of it was spoiled.

6362
CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

POOR HYGIENIC CONDITIONS--Concluding our report on food hygiene, today we take up quality control of foodstuffs at the laboratory level. While it is true that in some cases the appearance of the foods is so disgusting that it is immediately obvious that they are unfit to eat, in other cases this is not so apparent, which explains the need for laboratory control over the quality of food. A basic issue in this area is the condition of the food processing plants themselves. Generally speaking, technical conditions at most of the nation's food plants are deplorable. Actually, according to the doctor we interviewed, the colonialists were not concerned about establishing minimum standards of hygiene in food production units. Vast changes must be made in these units, and in some cases these changes are beyond the country's economic means, so it is often necessary to improvise, to carry out a series of adaptations to achieve minimum standards of hygiene in food production. [Excerpts] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Jan 80 p 3] 6362

GDR FOREIGN TRADE TRAINING--To increase their knowledge in the organization and planning of foreign trade operations, about 50 workers from various sectors of our Foreign Trade Ministry have been in Maputo since yesterday, to attend a technical training course conducted by high-level cadres of the GDR. Taking part in the 15-day course are the directors of the foreign trade enterprises, employees of the Foreign Trade Ministry and other civil servants. This training activity is felt to be particularly important, because foreign trade is a sector which calls for highly specialized cadres, with a decisive role in our economic development. The course, a pilot experiment in the training of higher-level cadres in the Foreign Trade Ministry to insure our economic growth, falls within the expanded technical and scientific cooperation with socialist countries, aimed at providing experience for better organization of our services. Significant topics in this course should relate to socialist monopoly at the foreign trade level, the functions and operation of the state companies under this ministry, and the tasks falling to a sector dealing with imports and exports and their planning. The course will be conducted every afternoon, and most of the subjects will be taught in English, since it is the most influential language in the international trade circuit. Administering the course is Professor Schulmeister, assistant dean of the Faculty of Economics, GDR, in collaboration with other specialists from that socialist country. [Excerpts] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 31 Jan 80 pp 1, 6] 6362

BEIRA HOTEL INDUSTRY SCORED--Beira (Bureau)--A high-level delegation led by Minister Mariano Matsinhe yesterday made a tour of the hotel sector, which is currently in a deplorable state as a result of incompetence, indiscipline, disorganization, irresponsibility and lack of leadership. With the exception of the Ambassador and Don Carlos Hotels, which are maintaining adequate service, a pleasant appearance and a reasonable degree of cleanliness, hygiene and organization, most of the hotels in the city of Beira are in a lamentable state, dictating a reorganization of the sector, which is providing poor service in Sofala Province. In all the locations visited, the situation is the same: laziness, apathy, irresponsibility and negligence, hiding behind biased attempts to blame all the irregularities on our inadequacies and the colonial legacy. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Feb 80 p 1] 6362

CSO: 4401

REPORTAGE ON ELECTION OBSERVERS

Lancaster Agreements Challenged

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 1

[Text]

CERTAIN aspects of the implementation of the Lancaster House agreement have been questioned by a group of independent registered observers now in Rhodesia to observe this week's poll.

In a statement yesterday, the observers, representing non-governmental groups from Canada and the United States, expressed concern over the increased militarisation of the country and the Governor's reliance on Rhodesian security forces, and the extraordinary powers which he has reserved for himself to ban candidates and disfranchise voters in some areas, reports Iana.

The observers also complained that Rhodesian authorities had not co-operated fully in the repatriation of Rhodesian refugees from Zambia and Mozambique.

The observers who had been invited by British Election Commissioner, Sir John Boynton, recommended that:

- All auxiliary forces be confined to their bases.
- Commonwealth Monitoring Forces be kept in place until a new government was formed.
- ZANLA and ZIPRA forces be used together with Rhodesian Security forces in dealing with ceasefire violations.
- The Governor should not use any of the banning or disfranchisement ordinances at his disposal and that he commit himself to first calling upon the party which has won the greatest number of seats to form the Government.

The media coverage of the electoral campaign, "though yet biased", has improved, the observers said.

"Technically the election seems well planned and organised."

The observers also said they were "deeply" concerned by "the one-sided campaign on the subject of intimidation made both in the media and in various official briefings and communiques.

"If we had to rely only on these sources, we would have to believe that the ZANU (PF), and, to a lesser extent, the PF, are the only parties responsible for acts of intimidation," the observers said, adding: "We have witnessed ourselves, despite official denials, that auxiliary forces are intimidating people in various parts of the country."

The observers said they had visited victims of politically-motivated violence in a number of hospitals during the past week.

"Many of the patients reported they had been wounded by security forces, Police, auxiliaries, district assistants or UANC supporters," the observers said.

Plans for Free Poll

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 21

[Text]

ALMOST 200 observers and their aides, drawn from more than 20 countries, are in Rhodesia to report on whether this week's election is "free and fair".

The largest team is the influential Commonwealth Observer Group with a total strength of 82. The 11 actual observers will begin their individual reports on the election on Saturday.

Their reports will go to the Commonwealth secretary-General, Mr Shridath Ramphal, and then to their respective Governments.

But when Lord Soames assesses the freeness and fairness of the election, he will be relying exclusively on the detailed reports from his election commissioner (who, in turn, will receive reports on the conduct of the election from his supervisors in the field) and his police, military and other advisers.

Foreign Governments have sent their own observer teams to gain first hand reports on the poll, while the numerous independent observers will report back to their sponsors.

Although it was not possible to establish when each observer would prepare his report, various spokesmen confirmed that many, including those by the Commonwealth group and the election commission, would be completed, at least in interim form, before the results of the election were known.

A revised list of registered election observers produced by the British Election Commission in Salisbury underlines the widespread interest in this week's poll.

Heading the list are the Commonwealth Observer Group members. The group has 82 members including 11 observers, 22 assistants, a 30-member support staff, 17 secretariat members and a Police and media adviser.

Then there are the 30 United Kingdom observers ,and 10 U.K. parliamentary observers.

Other observer groups nominated by their Governments (the strength of the group is in parentheses) have arrived from Australia (8), New Zealand (4), Denmark (4), the Federal Republic of Germany (5), the Netherlands (4), Belgium (4), France (5), Ireland (4), Italy (3) and South Africa (3).

The list also includes registered unofficial observers from the United States (6), Sweden (1) and the Canadian Human Rights Group (4).

There are three people here with a Canadian independent observer group, and eight independents from the United Kingdom, also the Federal Republic of Germany (1), and the Netherlands (1).

Freedom House, the U.S. civil rights organisation, has sent four American observers, three others came from Sweden while the TransAfrica and National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People has one observer here.

The list does not include a three-member delegation of observers from the Organisation for African Unity (OAU).

Nor does it include the United Nations observer, the under-secretary-general for special political affairs, Mr Perez de Cuellar, and five aides.

Other latecomers to Salisbury were two representatives from the South African Institute of Race Relations and another two observers representing the Heritage Fund, United States. There are also a number of private individuals who have travelled here to witness the elections.

Each team of observers has its own methods of checking that the elections are both free and fair. The Commonwealth Observer group members, for example, will each carry copies of a special questionnaire, prepared by the observers, which he or she must fill in at the end of each day of the election.

The form asks whether the observer has been satisfied with the polling facilities, whether procedures are being followed properly, ballot boxes kept secure, or whether they saw any interference with anyone trying to enter the polling station, or whether there was any pressure being brought to bear on voters in an attempt to influence their choice.

The Commonwealth observers will have to fill out a form for each polling station they visit, recording how long they stayed, how many votes were processed, what was the waiting time for voters, whether there was orderly behaviour, and any examples of attempted dual voting.

To Increase Activities

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 5

[Text] The Commonwealth Observer Group, which now numbers 82--of whom 11 are actual observers--is stepping up its activities on the eve of the election.

A statement yesterday said the group was extending its activities "across the length and breadth of the country" to observe the actual polling and preparatory arrangements.

"The group is paying special attention to areas where it is alleged that disruptive activities and intimidation are rife."

Using chartered aircraft and road transport, and occasionally the Government's facility tours, each of the 11 observers has been making spot visits to that province for which he or she has special responsibility.

The statement said it was estimated the group had travelled more than 82 000 km since it arrived in Salisbury on January 24.

Members had seen a landmine lifted after a group car had passed over it without harm and, in another incident, a landmine was lifted from a road a group car was due to use.

An observer's car tyres had been deflated and observer group stickers were also removed from the vehicle.

The statement said the group had expressed its "concern" to the authorities about the possible implementation of new Ordinances by the Governor, and about the slow repatriation of refugees across the borders, particularly from Mozambique.

Function

Part of the group's function concerned freedom of expression, and observers had held a series of talks with newspaper, radio and television executives both to examine censorship constraints on the country's media and to assess the way in which the media had served the electorate at large.

"The group believes it is now reaping the benefit from the fact that it arrived in Rhodesia early. This has enabled it to make a most thorough survey in every part of the country--an experience which should prove invaluable when the group begins to write its report (to Mr Shridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary-General) on Saturday.

CSO: 4420

DETAILS ON ELECTION OPERATION GIVEN

Less Problems Seen

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] THE Election Commissioner, Sir John Boynton, said last night that official observers are still concerned about questions still being posed about the secrecy of voting, if there are sufficient polling stations and the problem of intimidation.

Regarding the adequacy of the information campaign he said 500 000 posters in cartoon strip form have been issued in Shona and 150 000 in Ndebele with distribution by the Ministry of Information carried out at local level.

"There have been over 1 100 30-second spots on the native radio services, Radio Harare and Radio Ndebele, and in addition there has been a film campaign throughout the country with 464 screenings of the 'How To Vote' film at 58 cinemas in smaller centres and mobile cinemas showing it in the tribal trust lands," said Sir John.

He said there are 657 polling stations compared to 685 used in last year's election when the emphasis was on static stations. This time mobility is the key.

"We are dependent upon the provision of mine-protected vehicles and their supply is limited. If we had more we could in fact increase the number of mobile stations. It would not be easy, but it could be done.

"I believe the country is adequately covered and we shall find that the poll will prove that to be the case.

"Lastly, of course, there is the overriding question of intimidation and I can only say that my own supervising officers from the provinces, when they came to see me last Friday, were a great deal more optimistic than a fortnight ago. There is some indication that things have cooled down," said Sir John.

"There is also some indication that all of the measures the Governor has been taking, and the pressure on the parties, has had its effect. I believe we are right now to be holding this election, starting tomorrow."

The result of the poll will be announced on Tuesday morning at about 9 a.m.

Sir John Boynton hopes to introduce his report on the conduct of the elections after meeting Lord Soames on Monday.

Polling Station Guide

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 20

[Text] The election starts tomorrow. Black voters throughout the country will go to the polling stations in the next three days to choose the new government of Zimbabwe.

It is important to know who can vote, and how to vote.

Here is a point by point guide, showing what is needed and what will happen at the polling stations.

--Identity is important. Take with you documents that show you are a citizen of Rhodesia, were born here or have lived here for two years or more. These can be your RC paper, your national registration card or your birth certificate.

--If your wife or wives have none of these, she or they can use yours if you have been found eligible to vote.

--It is especially important for young people to have identity.

--You can vote only if you are 18 or more. If you are questioned about your age and have no proof you may not be allowed to vote.

--If you are eligible to vote the polling officer will put your hand into a special light box. This is to make sure you have not voted elsewhere.

--Then your fingers will be dipped in a special fluid so that you cannot vote again. The fluid is invisible and cannot cause you harm.

--You will be given a ballot paper and some of the numbers will be removed with a special punch. Again there is no way anybody can identify your paper.

--Take your paper to the booth. There are polling officers to show you what to do.

--Using the pencil there, put a cross in the blank space next to the emblem of the party of your choice. There is no candidate's name, only the symbol of the party. That is all you have to do. Just one cross against the symbol of your party.

--If you are not sure, ask the presiding officer. He is there to help you; to show you how to make the cross on the paper for the party you have chosen. He will keep your choice absolutely secret.

--When you have put your one cross in the proper place you will be shown how to fold the paper and put it into the ballot box. You can then leave the polling station.

--Remember that party agents or those who might want to tell you how to vote will not be allowed into the polling station. Once inside no one will be able to know where you put your cross.

--Remember what the symbol of your party looks like. There will be others on the ballot paper but you must put only one cross, for the party of your choice.

Right To Vote Emphasized

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 20

[Text] The main message of the common-roll election, in which only blacks are eligible to vote, is the secrecy of the vote, and it is that message which the Registrar-General, Mr Eric Pope-Simmonds, says must be put across.

Only days before the election, Mr Pope-Simmonds put out another call for people to take advantage of their right to vote.

"Remember that your vote is secret and no matter what anybody tells you it is quite impossible for anyone to know how you voted or against whose name you put your cross. That is the message we have got to put across," Mr Pope-Simmonds said.

He also outlined the qualifications for vote s as they were defined in the terms of the Electoral Act, 1979, under which this week's election will be held.

Anyone over the age of 18 and a citizen of Rhodesia is entitled to take part in the election. Also, if a person is a permanent resident and could register as a citizen--a person who must have been here as a permanent resident for a minimum of two years--he can cast his vote.

It was stressed again that the presiding officer would make the final decision on a person's eligibility. Such officers had been sent "specific instructions" on the matter, Mr Pope-Simmonds said, and if they had any doubts they would demand to see documents as proof of eligibility.

"The grey areas will obviously be on the question of age where youngsters under the age of 18 will attempt to get under the net," he said.

He added that problems could be experienced in that particular age group because it was sometimes difficult to be certain that a birth certificate actually belonged to the person carrying it.

Black women presenting themselves at the polling station could also present a problem. They were not so well documented as their men.

However, a black woman could be identified by a black man who had himself established his right to receive a ballot paper. This had been done "quite effectively" in the last election, he said.

Mr Pope-Simmonds stressed that it was the National Election Directorate and members of the Rhodesian civil service who were responsible for running the election.

There were "many facets" to the election and it was the "logical answer" that a co-ordinating body, the NED, should carry out the job.

There was a misconception among some people that it was the British who were running the election, but this was not the case.

None the less, the NED and Rhodesian ministries had found their relationchip with the British had succeeded on "a mutual respect of each other's position."

To monitor the progress of the polling, the NED would have an operations room which would be in contact with every polling station if necessary over the three-day period.

Party agents would be allowed into the polling stations during voting in the 95 urban stations of Salisbury and Bulawayo only.

"We are basically running the election on the same lines as our successful election in 1979 with a few modifications in detail rather than in principle," he said.

This applied to the increased use of the mobile polling stations which last year had been found to be very effective when considering the distance between polling stations and pockets of population.

Vote Counting Plans

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 21

[Text] **BY Friday evening, voting in the independence election of Zimbabwe will be over. It is then that the counting will begin, and it has been decided, because of some fears of a lack of secrecy, to do it in two parts.**

Notes issued by the Election Commissioner, Sir John Boynton, explain that the casting of votes and their collection into a safe place will be under the immediate control of the presiding officers, who are also under British supervision.

From the administrative centre, ballot boxes will be taken to the counting centre for the district, the notes explain. Verification, the balancing of ballot papers in the boxes and those unused or returned against those originally issued to the district, will take place. The process will be undertaken with the papers upside down and sorted into hundreds. Scrutineers from the political parties will be able to witness the procedure, as well as candidates.

Having condensed the papers into hundreds, and placed them into boxes, they will then again be corded and sealed by British election supervisors, labelled, and taken to the provincial centres for counting the votes.

TALLY

There, the box or boxes will again be shown to scrutineers and opened before the counting of votes for each of the parties begins. When the counting of party votes is finished, the number of papers should again tally with all the votes cast in the administrative districts.

At this point, the counting staff will set aside any doubtful papers for adjudication by the provincial returning officer, also under British supervision.

Sir John's instructions point out that at that stage it is usual for the returning officer to make his adjudications available to party agents for comment.

Once the provincial count is finished, the results are sent to the Registrar - General, Mr Eric Pope-Simmonds, who will apply the formula whereby parties who have obtained less than 10 percent of the vote are eliminated. Seats would then be allocated to the successful parties.

DIFFICULT

All ballot papers will then be returned to Britain where they will eventually be destroyed.

Sir John said the idea behind taking the papers back to Britain was to make it more difficult for anybody to interfere with the papers and also to allay suspicions that the papers might have a special watermark, thus making it remotely possible for them to be traced back.

None of these suspicions were at all founded in truth, he said.

"The real question people should ask themselves is whether anybody has heard of a vote coming to them after the last election and telling them how they voted. I have not heard of any cases at all," he said.

Fifty-six Districts

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 21

[Text] THE Ministry of Home Affairs, which plays a major part in this week's election, could run the mechanical side of the exercise freely and fairly . . . even if there were no observers, says Mr Ian Moffitt, a senior official in the Ministry and the National Co-ordinator for the National Election Directorate.

He made the observation last week as members of the various Rhodesian Government Ministries involved, among them Home Affairs, prepared for the election, which starts tomorrow.

But the observers, and particularly the British police are there, and Mr Moffitt says their presence will help in the effort "to cut down the intimidation aspect".

It was Mr Moffitt's job to liaise between the the National Election Directorate and his own Ministry, "feeding policy decisions from the NED down to the men on the ground".

This meant the Provincial Commissioner and the District Commissioner and their respective staffs. For the election, he said, the country had been divided into eight electoral provinces and 56 electoral districts, following the plan on which Home Affairs administration was organised.

Mr Moffitt explained that at district level the DC was wholly responsible for the actual running of the election. His duties included the choice and establishment of the polling station, arrangements for transport of officials and the recruitment of polling staff.

In as many cases as possible, polling staff were civil servants or teachers. Otherwise, staff were drawn from statutory bodies.

"Being civil servants and not being allowed to be involved in politics, it can be expected that they will be unbiased," he said. He added that when staff were being selected for polling station duties, their local knowledge was taken into account.

Security in the areas around the polling stations was the responsibility of the security forces but district assistants would be used on occasions where needed. However, security within the polling stations was entirely a Police matter, he said.

He stressed the apolitical nature of the polling booth staff. No one instructed the voter on whom to support; he was merely told how to fill in the ballot paper according to his choice of party. Assistance in placing a mark would be given if needed.

The DC was not only responsible for the arrangements in establishing the polling station but also in making sure that the election ran smoothly and according to the law.

Hence, the DC had to guard the ballot boxes from interference by locking them in a strongpoint overnight. In the more remote rural areas where such facilities might not be available, he would sleep with the box by his side, Mr Moffitt said.

Under those conditions, where a mobile station was in use, it was left to the DC's discretion to decide whether the station remained at its last stop for the night or returned to a strongpoint. In either case, all those involved would be given the opportunity of witnessing the sealing and unsealing of the ballot box and adding their signatures to the Election Commissioner seal.

The DC's duties continued after the end of the actual polling. Under the supervision of British election supervisors the ballot boxes for his district would be assembled in a safe place in his administrative centre. There they would be tied together and sealed by the supervisors.

From there, the ballots would be counted into groups of 100 and turned over to the Provincial Commissioner for further sorting and counting before finally being taken to Britain.

As was done last year, the Ministry of Home Affairs and other Ministries had carried out a "massive" education programme to get people to vote.

"I am quite sure that from our point of view, the mechanical side of it will go off very well, due purely to the hard work of the men on the ground," he said.

Rural Teams

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 21

[Text] LIKE any good concern, the organisation behind this week's election is pyramid-shaped, with the National Electoral Directorate at the top, the urban sector in the middle and the huge rural team at the bottom, literally covering the whole country.

The last is perhaps the least known, yet it is here that intimidation threatens the tribal trust lands and commercial farming areas and it is here that the vast majority of the voting population lives. Arranging an election in the rural areas presents greater problems than it does in, say, Salisbury.

Mr Stan Fynes Clinton is District Commissioner for the Sinoia area which represents a good cross-section of the country with a big tribal trust land, a purchase area, a big white farming population and several small towns.

Sinoia, Banket, Mtoroshanga, Raffingora, Mangula, Alaska and Darwendale all come into the Sinoia district. Thus his problems are those of district commissioners everywhere. In addition, his is a very political area, being the home of Mr Robert Mugabe, Chief Chirau and Mr James Chikerema, to name just three of the best known of the Sinoia-bred politicians.

"Our first priority was to mobilise the population," Mr Fynes Clinton said. "There is a tremendous amount of fear among the black people at the moment. Shortly after the last election, terrorists killed 30 office bearers of one particular party and threw their bodies into dip tanks.

"This led to an immediate and major refugee problem as the people in that area moved out. Dipping also stopped overnight, whereas up till then we had had 100 percent dipping. This shows how frightened people can be."

There are nearly 1 000 farms in the area, divided into five police districts, five different farming areas, five area co-ordination committees, and five civil defence committees, so the co-ordination of the elections is of great importance.

It has to be done in addition to Home Affairs' already full-time job of administering the area. Mr Fynes Clinton, however, has nothing but praise for the rural committees which have enabled the country to keep going through the difficult years.

"Some of the secretaries on committees like civil defence and area co-ordination have been at their posts for as much as 14 years. It's a voluntary job and a thankless one. They keep minutes of meetings, prepare newsletters for the entire community, not just committee members, and they are the contact point for the whole area so the phone is always ringing.

"In addition, these womenfolk have to run the farms while their husbands are in the bush and they have enough worries of their own. I think it's fair to say that we couldn't have run the country without them."

After mobilising the population, sites for polling stations had to be arranged. Obviously, people should not have to go too far, yet there are the problems of banditry and landmines in the tribal trust lands and purchase areas. The question of static or mobile stations also has to be considered.

"We selected sites that are recognised meeting places," Mr Fynes Clinton said. "From an administrative point of view, we have always used them, so that was easy.

"Staffing has presented a serious problem this time. Last April the school holidays were extended so we could use the schoolteachers but no decision was made on this until last week.

"Staff of statutory bodies have to man the polling stations. I arrange presiding officers for Karoi as well as Sinoia and district and, honestly, there just weren't enough to go round. I had to tell the Ministry of Education that we are obliged to call on teachers."

Intimidation is on the increase in the Sinoia area and is likely to remain high throughout the elections. Mr Fynes Clinton does not feel that people will stay away from the polls, though.

"All parties are encouraging the electorate to go to the polling stations," he said. "Our role in this is to persuade people that they will be safe at the stations and that their vote is secret, whatever anyone says.

"Despite the effects of the war, I'm always pleased when I go into the tribal trust lands to find that the people are still friendly and co-operative. There's no animosity there. They merely resisted passing on information because of their fear, something I can understand."

Mr Fynes Clinton left after this interview for a tour of the tribal trust lands in his district. "I believe that a district commissioner's job is out in the field and I couldn't stand a desk job," he said.

CSO: 4420

PARTY LEADERS' LAST PRE-POLL STATEMENTS REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 21

[Interviews with Robert Mugabe, Joshua Nkomo, Bishop Muzorewa, James Chikerema, and Ndabaningi Sithole by HERALD reporters, date and place not given]

[Text] Robert Mugabe: "Our Resources Belong to Everyone"

THE ZANU (PF) leader, Mr Robert Mugabe, says he is "not ashamed" of basing part of his political philosophy "on marxist-leninist thinking".

In an interview at his home Mr Mugabe was asked: "Are you a marxist communist?"

His immediate reaction was to laugh and say: "I don't hide the fact that I have certain fundamental principles behind my political philosophy which stem from marxist-leninist thinking.

"I don't think that is anything to be ashamed of. It is based on the principle that we are one in society, that our resources belong to everyone."

He added: "This is the blend of thinking around which my philosophy has developed."

He claimed Rhodesian society had been "so circumscribed" that it has been unable to study "other people's societies".

"This is very regrettable and rather narrow-minded of them."

Mr Mugabe appealed to the electorate: "Let us examine what is good in the socialist system, what is good in the capitalist system, and then surely we can make a plan?"

He said problems had arisen when whites left Mozambique "by their own free will, because they were afraid of the new black government.

"We don't want to see the same thing happen here, but I am not saying that it will not happen. Many people are so fear-ridden that it could happen, but we will try our best to avoid it by not victimising individuals or groups and by avoiding retrogressive change in the country."

Mr Mugabe said his election manifesto made it clear that a ZANU (PF) Government "will not take advantage of majority rule; an African will not be put in a position of superiority because he is black".

The socialist doctrine would be tried through a co-operative system "not by compulsion but by persuasion".

He said private ownership of farm land, homes and mines would remain unchanged but there would be some "State activity" in the field of education and health services. The civil service would be made "completely non-racial as we believe in a non-racial society in Zimbabwe".

On foreign policy, Mr Mugabe said he would persue a non-aligned status for Zimbabwe and seek membership of the world's non-aligned community.

Answering allegations that he lacked control of the ZANLA forces in the field, Mr Mugabe replied: "No one should accuse me of violating the ceasefire agreement in so far as the assembly points are concerned."

He claimed the security forces had violated the ceasefire by not staying in their barracks.

By not keeping the security forces in camps, Lord Soames had proved to be the main violator of the ceasefire agreement, he said.

He saw no problems in reorganising his ZANLA forces into a new combined security forces if he was elected to power. "We got the ZANLA people into the assembly points in a short time so the next

stage should not prove too difficult."

Mr Mugabe said it was "most unfortunate" that Lord Soames had not had time to "study the situation here objectively" as he should have done. The Governor had depended too heavily on the security forces for his information and had been fed "incidents of their own choosing".

"Lord Soames has tended to accept these trumped up charges against the ZANLA forces without seeking an independent investigation," he said.

Mr Mugabe said he was confident of victory in this week's poll because his ZANLA forces had created in the rural area an impregnable foundation of grass roots support from the electorate.

"There is nothing any opposition party can do to upset this support, which will see us into power in Zimbabwe."

Joshua Nkomo: "People Free Vote"

MR JOSHUA NKOMO appealed to all black Zimbabweans to vote wisely and without emotion, realising that their vote could determine whether there was do be peace, unity and stability in future.

And he cautioned the voters against putting into power parties that used intimidation to gain support, and said: "If they do this now when they are not in power, what more will they do when in government?

"You can persuade people but you can't force them to vote for you. People struggled not for any one leader to be in power, but for a free vote so that one man, one woman could exercise it freely."

MILITARY DISPLAY

Interviewed at his Salisbury home, the veteran nationalist hit out at what he termed "this massive display of military artillery" by the Rhodesian forces, and said this would inhibit a free and fair poll.

Mr Nkomo, who was referring to a display by the security forces of tanks and missiles, questioned the timing and intentions of the exercise.

"We agreed in London that the maintenance of law and order would be the duty of the Police, and not by ZANLA, ZIPRA or the Rhodesian forces."

The Patriotic Front leader said although there had been widespread intimidation during the poll campaign, especially in the Eastern districts, he did not want to see Zimbabwe's independence delayed any longer.

On his party's policies, he said it was vital that all the war refugees, including those outside the country, were immediately resettled and rehabilitated. Protected villages would have to be dismantled and the inhabitants properly resettled.

PRIORITIES

He added that the expansion of the agriculture industry and the training of more blacks for the public service would be among the PF's development priorities.

Other points raised during the interview:

- The PF had not planned for a coalition government after this week's poll because it would win the election.
- There was no question of any leader taking up arms after losing the election as people would be free and would have got what they struggled for over the years.
- Instead of threatening to intervene here if "chaos" breaks after the election, South Africa would do better to contain its "chaotic situation inside the country".

Bishop Muzorewa: "Freedom as Opposed to Slavery"

BISHOP MUZOREWA has made no contingency plan for failure and is "planning on success and victory" in the election.

Asked in an interview if as leader of the UANC, he would accept the possibility of being part of a coalition government after the election, he said he was counting on winning and therefore considered no other possibility.

He refused, however, to commit himself on whether he would accept the result of the election in the event of defeat. He said: "A lot depends on what happens during the voting.

"I believe the best I can offer this country is freedom as opposed to slavery.

"I can offer the country the freedom it has never enjoyed before in its history, for all people who consider themselves Zimbabweans.

"I am interested in Zimbabwe for Zimbabweans and my heart's desire is freedom, democracy and prosperity for Zimbabwe."

He said he hoped the whites, by virtue of many being fourth and fifth generation Rhodesians, and citizens of the country, would contribute to the programmes leading the country to prosperity.

"I hope they will share, constructively and positively, their experience in running the country.

"I also hope they will co-operate with the Government of the day so that together we can create an harmonious and prosperous society. There must be total interdependence of the races in this country."

Bishop Muzorewa again spelled out his policy in relation to land, health, education and religion.

"The land belongs to the people and the Government is the custodian and administrator of that land. The main source of land for resettlement will be the farms belonging to absentee landlords, which we will no longer allow.

"There will be free, compulsory primary education and free medical treatment. Maternity fees will be abolished.

"There will also be total freedom of worship, something this country will enjoy for the first time."

James Chikerema: "We Want To Share Wealth, Not Poverty"

THE leader of the Zimbabwe Democratic Party, Mr James Chikerema, said his supporters did not accept the socialist philosophy "that the best way of sharing is sharing poverty".

"We don't want that in Zimbabwe, we want to share wealth, not poverty," he said in an interview at his party headquarters.

He stressed that in order that the people of Zimbabwe should share in the country's potential wealth, "the ZDP aims to inject capital to encourage black commercial farmers to produce more food and cash crops."

He predicted that Zimbabwe could play its part in the international community by providing food for the less fortunate countries of the world and at the same time earn considerable foreign currency from these exports.

Mr Chikerema was outspoken about the dangers of the socialist ideologies of the ZANU (PF) party in an independent Zimbabwe.

"In view of the fact that most of the ZANU (PF) executive members have been based in Mozambique, they should know better from their experiences there than to try to impose a similar communist socialist doctrine in Zimbabwe.

"They should recall what Mozambique has done to itself since the Portuguese left. Today there is no economy worth talking about. Other countries such as Zambia and Tanzania, which have experimented with socialist reforms, have seen their people become lazy, feeling that, without the incentive of free enterprise there was no need to work," Mr Chikerema said.

He added that many of the black-ruled countries which had tried socialism

had become "international beggars". This was because socialism was an anathema to the African race.

The ZDP president said that if his party was given some influence in shaping a future government of Zimbabwe, it would wish to see all parties gaining seats commitment in a broad coalition which would lead the country "for the next five years".

This government of reconciliation and reconstruction represented the only workable form of leadership capable "of bringing peace and prosperity to Zimbabwe".

Ndaganingi Sithole: "Results...Will Surprise Most People"

THE president of ZANU, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, said intimidation carried out by some parties could backfire. "A vast number of black voters are regarding the ballot boxes as the 'revenge' boxes," he said in an interview at his home.

"The results of this election will surprise most people — if there is no rigging. The most unexpected could happen."

Mr Sithole said it had been a hard-fought campaign with widespread intimidation by ZANLA, ZIPRA and the Security Force Auxiliaries. "None of these three armed forces have stood by the ceasefire agreement."

He said his personal fear was that the election would not give the verdict of the people, but "the verdict of the intimidators".

But there were signs of a backlash, and many voters were anxious to register their protest against intimidation on polling day.

"The whole idea of free and fair elections where intimidation is so high is really a farce. We can only do the best we can under the circumstances and hope for a semblance of constitutionality.

"Those parties guilty of extensive and intensive intimidation are not sure of their popular support in the country."

The possibility of a coalition government would have to await the outcome of the election, which would show whether any party had a clear majority.

"It cannot be discussed now because every party is hoping to come out the clear winner."

Mr Sithole said if he was unhappy about the way the poll was conducted he would be prepared to challenge the legality in the courts again.

"If there is rigging in the voting or the counting we will challenge in the courts. That is why we are insisting that political party representatives should be present at every stage of the electoral process from Wednesday until the last day of counting.

"We don't want anything to happen to the ballot papers or the boxes." He said he had received reports that in certain areas voting had already started.

But he was no less confident about his party's results than he was for the last election.

"Without rigging, we should make at least twice the number of seats we made last time."

CSO: 4420

COMMENTARY ON END OF CAMPAIGN, SECURITY MEASURES

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 20

[Editorials: "Today's the Day"]

[Text] TODAY it's all over bar the voting. The most critical election campaign in Rhodesia's history has ended and it is now up to the people to determine what party or group of parties will form the government for the next five years.

It has been said that if any one party emerges with a clearcut victory it will take good care to ensure that it remains in power indefinitely. This could, in fact, be in keeping with African politics generally, yet the chances are that in our case a less dictatorial system will prevail.

With so many parties contesting the election there is almost bound to be a need for accommodation and compromise, for the subordination of personal ambition and for hands to reach out across present political and tribal frontiers. And the longer this need for unity exists, the better will the country be served.

Achieving it will probably entail a great deal of jockeying for position, perhaps even defections. But if all of this results in a government which is strong without being communist, and which is adjudged by the rest of the world to have been freely and fairly elected, the new State of Zimbabwe will have been born with a virtually unlimited potential.

And there is no reason why the "free and fair" verdict should not be passed, despite the many ugly incidents that have characterised the election campaign. And the Governor prescribed any one party, even if in only a limited form, he would have presented critics and troublemakers with a tailor-made catalyst.

As it is, all parties are committed to accepting the outcome of the voting. It may turn out that this promise was easier to make before the election than to fulfil afterwards. Yet there can be no escaping it—and that applies as much to battlefronts on the sidelines as to the electorate itself.

[Editorial: "A Great Comfort"]

[Text] THE recent show of force and the deployment of the security forces to guard vital installations in Salisbury and other parts of the country will be regarded by some people as heavy-handed and perhaps worse.

Yet in the light of the turbulent run-up to the election and the possibility of even more turbulence ahead it is a sensible precaution.

The people of this country are now passing through what must surely be the greatest crisis of confidence they have faced so far. It is a time of tension and nervousness for all concerned, particularly those families whose menfolk are away on call-up.

The military presence around town and elsewhere will be a great comfort to these people. It will also be a great comfort to their men in the field. It is in this context that the display of military power must be seen.

CSO: 4420

GOVERNOR'S 'PERSONAL GUARANTEE' OF SECRECY

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] **THE Governor, Lord Soames, said last night he believed the people of Rhodesia were wise and determined enough to vote for the party of their choice and would form their own judgment of those who talked about retaliation if the results of the poll were not to their liking.**

In an eve-of-poll address to the nation, broadcast on radio and television, Lord Soames said in spite of all the problems, noises offstage and the violence and intimidation, "about which I am far from happy", he believed the election would "take place in circumstances which should bring Rhodesia the government of her choice and the relief and recognition which will be her right".

He reassured people about any fear of attack after the election by saying the commanders of the forces had given orders to maintain the strictest discipline and self-restraint. "I expect them to be obeyed."

"I give all those voting in this election my personal guarantee that no one will know how you voted. Your choice is free. Your vote is secret."

He said the election held the key to peace and international recognition.

"All of us in positions of responsibility have been resolute in our determination to help Rhodesia realise the promise which these elections alone can fulfil. Now it is over to you, the people."

He said one of the proofs of the genuineness of the poll was that no one knew what the result would be.

"I cannot therefore foretell how I shall have to set about the task which falls to me of appointing a Prime Minister who is best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly.

"But I have asked all the political leaders to remain available and close at hand for consultations with me."

One matter which would be of crucial importance in the post-election period "and upon which we have already made significant progress, is in preparing for the coming together of those who have so recently been fighting one another.

"It is encouraging that we have been able to make a start in bringing that about," he said.

CSO: 4420

SITHOLE HITS BACK AT NYERERE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 8

[Text] THE Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole's ZANU yesterday lashed out at certain black states for their threats not to recognise the winners of Rhodesia's election this week, should either Mr Robert Mugabe or Mr Joshua Nkomo lose.

In a statement issued yesterday, Mr Kesiwe Malindi, the party's secretary for foreign affairs, said the economies of Zambia and Tanzania had thrived on Rhodesia's war and settlement of the power struggle "without their puppets on the throne means starvation to their lazy nationals and a heavy blow to their economies," reports Iana.

"LITTLE MEN"

"Zimbabwe nationals should ignore these do-gooders who have failed to solve a single issue affecting their own countries. Zimbabweans must choose a government of their own liking, whether Kaunda or Nyerere wants it or not. These little men who desire to replace Kwame Nkhrumah must be told to shut up."

Mr David Zamchia, a ZANU candidate, said yesterday after a 10-day election tour of Manicaland that he believed there would be a "reasonably free and fair election" in most areas.

Mr Zamchia, Minister of Health in the Government of National Unity, said that despite intimidation by some political parties people were "generally aware of what they are doing and have made up their minds how they will vote".

He forecast strong support for ZANU in Chipinga, Melsetter and Umtali.

CSO: 4420

ZIPRA BEGINS TO TRAIN WITH SF

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] **THE FIRST STEP to integrate guerilla forces into a new national army was taken yesterday when a former ZIPRA battalion from assembly point Lima at Madhlamburi reported for training to High Acres, a 1 Brigade battle school near Essexvale.**

Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, commander of ZIPRA, who was at the battle school to welcome the battalion, said there was a "99 percent chance" that ZANLA forces will take up the "offer" made simultaneously to undergo training by the Monitoring Force and the Rhodesian Army.

Whom the battalion of more than 600 guerillas arrived at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday

after travelling in 10 civilian buses [words illegible]

on bad roads from Madhlamburi, they went on parade and were then addressed by Mr Dabengwa.

They handed in their arms and will use G3 automatic rifles in training.

They will be trained by about 30 British members of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force under the command of Major Richard Hatton, of the Royal Artillery, and by six Rhodesian African Rifles instructors.

The battalion commanders will have only internal disciplinary powers. The training programme will be co-ordinated by Colonel Peter Daines, commandant of Shaw Barracks, near Essexvale.

The 26 New Zealand lorries from assembly

point Lima, which has [words illegible] will also be based at the battle school.

Welcoming the guerillas to the battle school was Major-General John Acland, the commander of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force.

"This is important because it is the first psychological step in merging the gap between the armies," said General Acland at a Press briefing.

He said the idea was mooted when he met in Bulawayo with Lieut-General A. L. C. Maclean, commander of the Army, and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Patriotic Front leader.

A similar "offer" of training had been made to ZANLA. "There are certain snags, but I believe these may be ironed out fairly soon.

There was no immediate readiness to come forward," he said.

It was not known how many guerillas wanted to

join [word illegible] because [words illegible] sent to them had not given "a particularly

accurate picture". said General Acland.

But the decision on the size and shape of the country's future forces would have to be taken by the new government, he said.

What would happen if the training scheme broke down. Major-Gen. Derry MacIntyre, Army Chief of Staff (Administration), Mr Dabengwa and Brigadier Mike Shute replied, almost in unison: "It won't."

"We are going to try to do our best to make things work," said Gen. MacIntyre.

"With a bit of trust on both sides, we can eventually produce something worthwhile."

Describing the camp facilities as "a little on the spartan side", Maj. Hatton said he envisaged "no large problems".

"We will probably have some language difficulties. We will have to train the ZIPRA men to use G3s and will have to instruct them on new drills.

"Other than in those areas there should be no problems."

He said the monitors, who would be doing "the guts of the training", would instruct on map reading and would give "a more orthodox form of training than they have had".

He did not know how long the training would last.

The guerillas will be re-equiped today with two sets of sand-coloured jump suits, black boots, peak caps, underclothes, socks and a skeleton set of Rhodesian webbing.

They will be examined by seven Rhodesian doctors with a monitoring force doctor in attendance to adjudicate disputes.

After administrative work is completed, within the next few days, the men will start training in earnest.

The Governor's spokesman, Mr Nicholas Fenn, told a Press conference in Salisbury last night that the joint training exercise was initiated by the Rhodesians and had been taken up by the Patriotic Front.

He said a similar offer had been made to ZANLA commanders and they had welcomed the move. Mr Fenn said it had proved easier to sort out the details of the exercise with ZIPRA than with ZANLA, and that practical arrangements were still being discussed with ZANLA.

He said the object of the exercise was to replace, as far as possible, a "relationship of enmity with a relationship of cooperation".

Initiative

"It is expected that this initiative will help foster the spirit of reconciliation and that it will lead to closer understanding and make a positive contribution to the future of this nation," he said.

The Patriotic Front's publicity secretary, Mr Willie Musarurwa, said at a Press briefing yesterday that the exercise would help form the nucleus of a future Zimbabwe army composed of elements of ZIPRA, ZANLA and Rhodesian security forces.

He said the idea had been under consideration for some time and that it had first been mooted at the Lancaster House talks. He said the merger had been rejected by the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, through his "intransigence".

The leader of ZANU (PF) and the commander-in-chief of ZANLA, Mr Robert Mugabe, told the Herald's Africa News Service that the exercise had already begun with his forces at "one or two camps".

Mr Mugabe said the process would continue after the election, but that it would be necessary to disband the "undesirable elements" in the Rhodesian forces, including the Selous Scouts, the auxiliaries and "mercenaries".

CSO: 4420

SECURITY FORCES START MOVE INTO CAMPS

Fenn Statement

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] SMALL units of Rhodesian security forces and Police have moved into seven of the 12 assembly points where 22 000 guerillas have gathered since the ceasefire, the Governor's spokesman Mr Nicholas Fenn said last night.

The camps involved so far are Alpha, Bravo, Echo, Foxtrot and Hotel in the eastern areas of the country and Bravo in Mashonaland West.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that teams of 10 members of the security forces have moved into each camp and similar sized groups should be in the remainder by the time the election result is declared next Tuesday morning.

The first step of integrating Patriotic Front alliance forces into the Army has been completed with the arrival of 617 ZIPRA elements at Essexvale near Bulawayo.

Also at this camp are 38 members of the Rhodesian forces. 16 New Zealand troops who moved with them from assembly point Lima and 36 British members of the Monitoring Force are on their way.

Mr Fenn told a Press conference: "The intention is that the Patriotic Front forces, both ZIPRA and ZANLA, should eventually train together with the Rhodesian forces. As in all such cases a start has to be made somewhere. A start has been made at Essexvale.

"There is no question of excluding ZANLA from this enterprise. A similar offer has been made to ZANLA and the practical arrangements are under discussion. The Rhodesians are urgently looking for a second camp. We shall press on with our efforts to bring this project to fruition."

Mr Fenn's optimism, however, was not shared yesterday by Mr Robert Mugabe's ZANU (PF).

Party spokesman Mr Justin Nyoka told the Herald Africa News Service that his organisation had been told that 350 ZANLA guerillas would be sent to Essexvale to be retrained as an integrated unit with ZIPRA and the security forces.

"We never heard from them again. This is grossly unfair. The British are obviously supporting one side," said Mr Nyoka.

In reply Mr Fenn said: "The response from ZANLA was slow and we didn't want to delay ZIPRA."

On the future of the Commonwealth troops in Rhodesia he said: "As confidence is built up the role of the monitoring force will change from monitoring to liaison and training. This in turn will permit a phased reduction in the size of the force.

"It is intended that this process should begin on March 3, leaving small liaison groups to carry forward on an effective liaison role into the next phase. Elements of the monitoring force will thus continue to perform liaison both with the Patriotic Front and Rhodesian forces in the period between the elections and independence."

Further Details

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] AS 617 ZIPRA forces who arrived at the 1 Brigade battle school near Essexvale on Monday were inspected on parade before settling in to their new training camp yesterday. Rhodesian Police and Army officers moved into two assembly points in the Tangent area as part of a nationwide exercise to form a new national army.

Assembly Point Kilo, near Brunapeg Mission, has been closed and between 300 and 400 ZIPRA and ZANLA forces have been moved to Juliet, also a mixed assembly point near Tuli.

Representatives of Combined Operations, a 1 Brigade liaison officer and senior Police officers arrived there yesterday "to explain the new situation", Brigadier Mike Shute, Officer Commanding 1 Brigade, said.

The guerillas were moved from Assembly Point Kilo to Juliet "for simplicity and administrative reasons".

He said an advance party of Police went into Assembly Point Mike near St Paul's Mission on Monday.

"They will liaise directly with the ZIPRA commander at Mike to get some unity of purpose within the assembly point.

"As a sign of good faith, they will live and work with the ZIPRA forces." Brigadier Shute said a Rhodesian Army liaison officer moved into Assembly Point Mike yesterday afternoon and it was hoped soon to send in a Police Support Unit.

The plan throughout the country was to move in Police members, an Army liaison officer and "in due course some soldiers".

This scheme was more advanced in the Tanfrest area than in others throughout the country, he said.

At High Acres farm near Essexvale, now being used as a training camp for a ZIPRA battalion, Major-General John Acland, Commander of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force, Major-General Derry MacIntyre, Army Chief of Staff (Administration), and Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, commander of ZIPRA, yesterday inspected a parade.

After being greeted in unison by the battalion, General MacIntyre told them: "We hope we can come to understand each other because, after all, this country is our country and we have got to work together in the long run to make it an even greater country than it has been in past years.

"This is probably the first time you have had a Rhodesian soldier talking to you, but this is not going to be the last.

"I intend to come back a lot of times and keep a very close personal watch on the experiment we are starting today."

Speaking to the men through an interpreter at the parade soon after 8 a.m., General MacIntyre's voice echoed in the Essexvale hills when he said the rain on Monday, which delayed the battalion's arrival, "was perhaps a lucky sign".

"We are going to work together to make certain our luck continues and we are going to make a real, good effort to ensure that this experiment turns out well."

The parade, watched by Rhodesian Army personnel and instructors and by New Zealand members of the monitoring force, was also addressed by General Acland and Mr Dabengwa.

"Now that you are here, I hope that all of you will think that coming here was the right thing; that every one of you will do his best to make this important experiment work," said General Acland.

When the New Zealand and British soldiers left the camp it would be vital that the men were working as closely with the Rhodesian Army as they worked with the monitors, he said.

Mr Dabengwa told the men the exercise had "fortunately been agreed to by all the leaders of the forces, Comrades Mugabe, Nkomo and the Commander of Combined Operations".

He said: "I am certain that within a few days your colleagues of ZANLA will be able to join you and you will be able to train together."

Announcing they had been named the First Battalion, he said it was a challenge that they should be able to prove themselves worthy of this designation.

"Should we be told by the camp commandant that your performance has not been worthwhile, we will certainly take away the designation of First Battalion from you and and give it to those who are worthwhile."

He urged the men to co-operate with the camp commandant and all other officers in the camp.

"I know that you have the capability and the capacity to do everything that is necessary to be done.

"I have no doubt that it will take you a matter of hours to be conversant with the way the G3 (rifle) operates.

"I also have no doubt that, within a few weeks, you will have proved to our Rhodesian counterparts that you are as much soldiers as they are."

Dressed in an assortment of rice-flake camouflage, Mozambique, Zambian, Libyan and Ethiopian camouflage, the men, whose average age is about 18, also sported a variety of Russian cap-badges.

All have been trained externally, with most of the officers being trained in Eastern bloc countries.

CSO: 4420

REVITALIZATION OF OBVA BUSINESS CENTER REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] NEW life is coming to the remote Obva business centre, at the heart of a densely populated area of northern Umfuli Tribal Trust Land, west of Sinoia.

In the past two years, as ZIPRA terrorists moved south through the Umfuli and Magondi TTLs they have closed and destroyed schools, clinics and dip tanks. As the people stopped coming to Obva the stores closed and buses stopped running.

A month ago the once-thriving centre had just one grinding mill operating.

But now the clinic has reopened, attracting 628 patients in its first three weeks. Two dip tanks have reopened, a second mill has started up and plans are in hand to reopen the school. A bus service will be restarted soon and it will not be long before the first store reopens.

"The new activity stems entirely from the arrival at Obva of 30 members of the Security Force Auxiliaries," said Sinoia's Assistant District Commissioner, Mr Dave Olsen.

"Obva is the latest area to be opened up by the SFAs. The people from Obva had seen what they had achieved in other areas and asked for SFAs to be posted to their area.

"Within days the SFAs had opened up a clinic using their own medical supplies, and people are travelling up to 60 kilometres for treatment by the SFA medic.

"The first dipping at Obva took place last Thursday and plans are being discussed to rebuild the school which was seriously damaged by terrorists in May last year."

The story has been the same in many parts of the district since the first detachment of SFAs was moved into Magondi TTL in February last year.

Initially they established a detachment headquarters at Zimbara, but the local people soon requested a base at Hombwe, also in Magondi.

The new base at Obva early this month is an extension of their reconstruction work.

In Magondi TTL the presence of the SFAs has been responsible for the reopening of two schools on January 1 this year and the continued operation of three more. Only one school, at Chakabora, remains closed in the sector of operations. They have also reopened four dip tanks.

But in the area around Romec assembly point, which has more than 740 ZIPRA forces, four schools remain closed and none of the three dips have reopened, said Mr Olsen.

"It is significant that where there is an SFA presence redevelopment is taking place. We have rebuilt some dip tanks three times, but now they are staying in operation."

He said more often than not the first move came from the people of an area. "Where they have seen schools, clinics and dips reopening they have attributed it to the protective influence of the auxiliaries.

"They are coming forward in increasing numbers requesting the SFAs be posted to their area. I believe this gives the lie to so many of the allegations made about the auxiliaries.

"In most cases they are operating in their own home districts — and they are welcomed by the people."

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

SFA RECONSTRUCTION RECORD--Since the start of the year security force auxiliaries working on civil reconstruction projects in the tribal trust lands have managed to open more than 90 schools, a military source said yesterday. In addition, 27 clinics have been opened, nine business centres, 71 stores, 71 cattle dips, four beerhalls and 16 grinding mills. Two missions had been reopened, he said. The SFAs had also played a part in repairing roads and restoring bus services. They had provided protection to civil administrators and agricultural officers operating in the TTLs. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 3]

FORCES HAVE EIGHT CONTACTS--A Combined Operations Headquarters communique yesterday reported that security forces had had eight contacts. The full text of the communique was: "Combined Operations Headquarters reports that security forces have had seven contacts with ZANLA and one with ZIPRA. One ZIPRA terrorist has been killed, and 12 ZANLA and one ZIPRA have been captured. "On Saturday morning four armed ZANLA elements entered a farm compound in the Melsetter area. After threatening the residents, they left, abducting a 17-year-old girl. She has not yet been located. "On Saturday afternoon in the Godhlwayo Tribal Trust Land, a man and two boys were abducted by ZANLA terrorists. The boys, although having been tied up, managed to free themselves. "As they were running away, a grenade was thrown at them. One boy was injured in the explosion, but both managed to make good their escape. The man has not yet been found." [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 1]

BALLOT BOXES GUARDED--The 560 British "bobbies" helping to police Rhodesia's elections will guard the ballot boxes night and day to ensure that voting this week is free and fair. "They have been encouraged to sleep in the same place of safety as the ballot boxes will be placed," the Election Commissioner, Sir John Boynton, told a Press conference last night. The British policemen will be posted in uniform at most of the polling stations around the country. They will also travel in the mobile booths. "I believe that their presence in the polling stations is a great assurance of fair play in the rural areas and will allay those with suspicions," said Sir John, who added they will each produce their own reports on how the polling has been handled, in addition to the findings of his own staff. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1]

ZANLA INTIMIDATION--Intimidation by ZANLA has not been spontaneous but has been the product of a preordained campaign, says the chairman of the American Zimbabwe Rhodesia Association, Mr Robert Morris, after a six-day visit from New Jersey. In a pre-election campaign report, Mr Morris said in Salisbury yesterday that intimidation by ZANLA was not sporadic and haphazard, but highly organised and sustained. The border crossings from Mozambique had not taken the form of infiltration but rather of mass movement. Mr Morris is a former New York City judge and chief counsel for the United States Senate Internal Security Sub-committee. He has also been the president of the University of Dallas and the University of Plano. His report said while not as widespread, there had also been acts of intimidation in north Matabeleland by ZIPRA forces and about 4 100 ZANLA and 1 500 ZIPRA were still outside the assembly points. Mr Morris said there was extensive evidence that the Soviet bloc was the primary source of support for the forces of ZANLA and ZIPRA. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 4]

FUTURE OF CMF--No firm details have been released yet on the future of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force, but last night the Governor's spokesman, Mr Nicholas Fenn, gave a hint of the options open to Lord Soames. He made it clear, however, that "there will be no question of an abrupt or precipitous withdrawal". "I would rather expect that the development will be phased over some time and that the role of the force will change progressively from a monitoring role into one more akin to liaison and training." In the meantime, Monitoring Force officers based at assembly points around the country have warned that their men could be caught up in fighting if the withdrawal of Commonwealth troops is not dealt with quickly after the elections. According to the Herald Africa News Service, sources close to the CMF say the officers have made personal pleas to the commander, Major-General John Acland, seeking a firm deadline for the withdrawal--and are angry that Lord Soames and his advisers have still to make a decision with the start of the poll just 24 hours away. The Commonwealth officers are particularly concerned about the estimated 15 000 guerillas said to be loyal to ZANU (PF) leader, Mr Robert Mugabe, and have told their superiors in Salisbury that some of these ZANLA elements are "undisciplined and unpredictable". [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 1]

TERRORISM DECREASING--There were signs that terrorist incidents in the JOC Tangent area were decreasing since the deployment of election call-up troops, an Army spokesman said in Bulawayo yesterday. Only two incidents were reported in the area at the weekend, the spokesman said. And because of the presence of troops in the Shabwe TTL, 40 Povos (the name for abductees forced to help terrorists) had returned to their protected vollage on Saturday. "We are very pleased about the return of these people. It shows that the local people are feeling much more confident, because terrorists are no longer operating in the area," he said. Three terrorists abducted a man and two boys at Godhlawayo TTL on Saturday. Although bound with rope, the two boys escaped while being taken to an unknown destination. As they fled one of the terrorists threw a grenade after them and one of the boys

was slightly hurt. The Army took the boy to hospital, the spokesman said. In the Wankie TTL on Sunday Police arrested an unarmed terrorist. He took the Police to the place where his weapon and a grenade were hidden. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 11]

VITAL INSTALLATIONS GUARDED--A spokesman for Combined Operations said yesterday that security forces are being deployed to guard vital installations throughout the country as part of the pre-election deployment of troops. He said the deployment was "precautionary" after recent incidents involving explosive devices. Yesterday in the Borrowdale area, around the ZRBC studios at Pockets Hill, men from the Rhodesian Light Infantry, Rhodesian Armoured Cars and the Artillery carried out an exercise as part of the deployment plan. Other troop movements were reported from the industrial areas. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 1]

MUGABE HOME GUARDED--Rhodesian security forces guarding key installations throughout the country have been deployed with the full approval of the Governor, Lord Soames. The Governor's spokesman, Mr Nicholas Fenn, told a Press conference in Salisbury last night that Lord Soames had agreed to the deployment as "it was necessary to heighten security measures in order that people could go to the booths and cast their secret vote". He confirmed a report that armoured cars had been stationed near the home of the leader of ZANU (PF), Mr Robert Mugabe, last night. "The protection of Mr Mugabe is a major preoccupation," said Mr Fenn. Yesterday, heavily armed soldiers in armoured trucks and armoured cars prowled various parts of Salisbury. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1]

PENSIONS ACT--The Old Age Pensions Repeal Act will take effect on March 31 after which date it will be replaced by a public assistance scheme. The Director of the Department of Social Affairs, Mr Brian Beecroft, said people eligible for pensions after April 1 1980 must send completed applications, together with supporting documents, to their local Social Affairs officer before the end of next month. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 80 p 8]

EDUCATION COSTS--The cost of increasing salaries within the Ministry of Education will be about $24 million, the Minister of Education, Mr Edward Mazaiwana, said yesterday. He said spending on teachers' salaries, which were increased at the beginning of February, and on the general improvements in administration, could be broken down into $18 million for teachers, $2 million for headmasters whose schools had been regraded and $4 million for school supervisors. New schools were being built and this would be accelerated to cater for children who were previously unable to attend school or who were neglected in this respect. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 14]

RSF CONTACTS--Security forces have been involved in a further seven incidents which resulted in three contacts and the death of five civilians, the Governor's spokesman, Mr Nicholas Fenn, said last night. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

U.S. TROOPS' ARRIVAL DENIED--Kuwait, 3 March--The Somali Embassy here today denied Kuwaiti press reports that 1,000 U.S. troops have arrived in Somalia following the Somali Government's agreement in principle to grant military facilities to the United States on its territory. The report was carried in the Kuwaiti paper AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Saturday. The embassy described the report as "completely unfounded," saying that "the Somali Government believes in a policy of nonalinement and opposes military pacts and interference in the internal affairs of other countries." [Text] [LD030916 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0722 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD]

CSO: 4402

BRIEFS

FAMINE THREAT--Shinyanga region has had no rain for more than 2 months and the drought has brought the threat of acute famine. (Runo Mpangala), the Chama Cha Mapinduzi regional secretary has urged the people of Shinyanga to use the crops they harvested last year with extreme caution. He also announced plans to stop food being transported away from the region, including setting up road blocks on all district and regional boundaries. [LD281856 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 28 Feb 80 LD/EA]

CSO: 4407

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL CROPS--Kinshasa, 12 Dec (AZAP)--Under the headline "Let Us Tear Out the Quinquina and Eat Our Fill," the daily newspaper JUA DU KIVU has just issued a warning against the exclusive practice of growing industrial crops to the detriment of food crops. This is an unfortunate tendency emerging in the region among agricultural companies and farmers. In fact, the newspaper states, despite the provisions of a regional order in effect since 1977 forbidding the growing of industrial crops (quinquina, tea, and so on)to the detriment of products that are immediately edible, the trend has only grown stronger, resulting in a shortage of plant products in the essentially agricultural Kivu region. Consequently, the same source notes, this shortage results in malnutrition and rickets, especially among children. In order to meet the emergency, the Pharmakina Company, cited by the daily JUA, has just turned over to its workers part of its worn-out industrial plantations, where they can grow garden crops such as soybeans, peanuts and other grains rich in protein. Special emphasis is to be placed on subsistence agriculture, the newspaper concludes in a pressing appeal to the people of Kivu, who, it writes, cannot wait 5 or 7 years to eat. [Text] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 13 Dec 79 p 1614] 11,464

COPPER EXPORT PRICES--Kinshasa, 12 Dec (AZAP)--In its latest information summary, the Zairian Company for the Marketing of Ores (SOZACOM) has just announced that just as in the case of exports of refined copper, Zaire and Chile have just informed their Japanese customers of a price increase for 1980 shipments. Quoting the JAPAN METAL JOURNAL, SOZACOM adds that these customers have received a similar notice from Zambia. Zairian copper exports to Japan are essentially based on wirebar. For the first 10 months of 1979, Zaire exported 10,256 tons. As for Chilean and Zairian copper, the same source notes, consumers no longer have any choice. Some greatly prefer to buy Zairian and Chilean wirebar and cathodes because of the relatively high price of Zambian wirebar. SOZACOM also states that Zaire and Zambia have proposed to their customers an increase from 12 to 20 pounds for wirebar. Nest year, some 15,000 tons will be shipped to Japan, almost the same amount as this year. [Text] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 13 Dec 79 p 1617] 11,464

PETROZAIRE DEVELOPMENT--Kinshasa, 20 Dec (AZAP)--The Zairian Petroleum Enterprise (PETROZAIRE) is planning to improve its infrastructure within the framework of a major program aimed at making a greater contribution to the country's development. Among other things, the program provides for an increase in river and rail transport in order to have optimal utilization of national means and the rapid shipment of oil products to the interior, construction of storage facilities throughout the country and an asphalt unit to facilitate development of the system of roads, and the identification of national oil potential through an intensification of information, research and local exploration and operations. Both the board of directors and the management committee of PETROZAIRE have referred to the program but no details have yet been given on work to be done, their scheduling or the volume of financing. [Text] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 17 Dec 79 p 1328] 11,464

CSO: 4400

MP'S CALL FOR FOREIGN POLICY CHANGES

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 21 Feb 80 pp 1, 8

[Text]

ZAMBIA should not pursue an aggressive foreign policy which has no strong economic base, an MP suggested in Parliament yesterday.

Mr Francis Nkhoma (Matero) said such a policy was dangerous and he urged the Government to desist from exporting "politics of poverty."

He claimed that salaries of diplomats were "very meagre" and were as a result being exposed to serious temptations.

He was speaking on a debate on the estimates for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He said Zambians had suffered because of involvement in delicate international matters.

"Interests of our country should be paramount although I know one cannot sit back and say one will not support Namibians or South Africans.

"Some OAU countries can shout from foreign hotels, but it is the poor Lozi and people on the borders who are bearing the brunt of the war," he said.

Mr Nkhoma appealed to the Party to study the country's foreign policy carefully and ensure that interests of the people were looked after well.

The Government had laid a greater emphasis on politics than on economy.

He said communication between Lusaka and the foreign missions was very bad. "It is embarrassing for a Zambian diplomat in London, Tokyo or other places to be telephoned by a **Daily Telegraph** reporter asking about the reshuffles at home and he is forced to give an unclear answer," he said.

He called on the ministry to improve communication.

Mr Elliot Chembe (Mlinga) complained that too many people were speaking on the foreign policy. "A governor, a provincial political secretary and a mayor — who is supposed to be talking on potholes — all speak on foreign policy.

"Why should we all speak on Namibia and South Africa? We should know who must make statements on our foreign policy," he said.

This was echoed by **Mr Lavu Mulimba** (Petauke) who blamed "too many spokesmen" on foreign affairs as being responsible for the confusion in the ministry.

He said only those elected by the people should be left to speak on foreign affairs because they were answerable to their voters.

Unelected spokesmen on the country's foreign affairs just made it difficult for the ministry because they were not answerable to the people, he said.

Mr Chembe said the Government should not be partial on the Rhodesian situation.

He said some statements tended to show that one party was favoured and that some parties in Rhodesia were questioning our integrity.

He wondered why Zambian children were suffering while the Government was feeding refugee children.

The Party and its Government, he said, had cared for refugee children and yet those in Senanga, Sesheke and other places had been going without education for two years.

"Now schools have been closed and there are no medical facilities. People along the borders are only being helped by South Africans," he said.

Mr Thomas Chiseng'antambu, (Chimwemwe) said it was high time the Organisation of African Unity stopped using Zambia "as a sacrificial lamb on the altar".

The country had been left to battle it out alone with the racists.

Mr Benjamin Chipango, (Livingstone) said the country's foreign policy must march with the interest of the people. He said the minister must help in dealing with officers at missions abroad who had misused or sold properties. He cited the mission in Washington as one example.

Some MPs charged that tribalism was rife in the ministry.

Mr Nathan Siafwa (Kalomo) said tribalism had become evident and that officers without experience were sent abroad at the expense of those who were experienced.

Kabwata MP, **Mr Maxwell Sibongo,** supported Mr Siafwa and wondered what had happened to the career diplomatic courses at NIPA from which diplomats were chosen.

"I fail to understand why policemen and soldiers without experience are appointed in the diplomatic service when they are not trained for the job," he said, adding that this was misplacement of manpower. He appealed to the Party and its Government to look into the matter.

Earlier, Mr Siafwa called on the Government to restate Zambia's stand on the disintegrated Patriotic Front, formerly led jointly by Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe.

He said because of the division between the Rhodesian nationalists who were now campaigning separately for next week's elections, Zambia's efforts in supporting them financially, materially and diplomatically seemed to have been wasted.

He said: "Can we reconsider our position on Rhodesia to avoid a recurrence of the Angolan situation where we lost millions of Kwacha worth of property because of supporting a losing side."

Mr Siafwa said some property was still marooned somewhere in Angola because there was no way of bringing it back. "It would be shameful for the country to find herself in the same situation over Rhodesia," he said.

Mr Sibongo appealed to the ministry to include MPs on OAU delegations so that they could attend the sessions in observer capacities.

Mr Palakasa Chiwaya (Chililabombwe) advocated Zambia's withdrawal from the OAU claiming the organisation has not helped the country in any way.

Mr Chiwaya charged that Zambia's contribution to the organisation has not benefited her.

CSO: 4420

SUCCESS OF ZAMBIANIZATION PLAN IN QUESTION

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 18 Feb 80 p 4

[Text]

THE Zambianisation programme, which was launched in the mid 60s to entrench Zambian control on the country's economy, has within the years proved to be a controversial and widely misunderstood exercise.

The misunderstanding and controversy have mainly arisen because of the effects this programme is bound to have on various groups that compose the society.

On the part of most Zambians, for example, the rapid implementation of the programme is vital, because it will signal the fulfilment of their aspirations to rise to responsible posts which will enable them to take part in shaping their own nation's destiny.

To them the current rate at which the programme goes is not satisfactory, and often they have spoken in disgust about the Zambianisation Bureau, being a toothless body.

On the contrary, some expatriates and residents view the full implementation of the programme as the approach of disaster as it means for them to quit their influencial positions at work and lose even their prestigious homes to the local worker.

To them, the speed at which the programme is being implemented is too fast, and thus there have been screams about impending economic disaster if the speed is not checked.

There have also been crises about Zambianisation being the root cause of such evils as corruption, nepotism, low productivity in industries and the consequential shortages of commodities.

Citing the rising record of cases of highly placed Zambians in both government and private sector who have been involved in corruption and thefts scandals, a number of people including Zambians have often condemned rapid Zambianisation.

The common conclusion after citing these cases is that Zambianisation has been a failure and if further damage to the economy is to be avoided, a halt should be ordered to its implementation.

Indeed, it cannot be denied that Zambianisation has faced problems in certain areas and that it has brought some problems particularly in its initial stages of implementation.

That the successful implementation of the programme needs careful approach, has been often emphasized even by leaders in the Party and its Government, who have warned that wholesale Zambianisation could be economic suicide.

But is it correct to say that Zambianisation has been a failure or that it has been responsible for the shooting record of thefts, corruption and low productivity now besetting our industries?

The commissioner of labour Mr Lufwendo Imasiku commenting on this issue recently said these charges are unfair.

In the first place, the commissioner said that Zambianisation has been quite successful. He noted that although there were people who think it has been going slowly and others who think that it has been too fast, their judgements usually depended on the groups they belong to.

"To most Zambians it appears to be slow because they do not reach their expectations quickly enough and to the non-Zambians it has been too fast because it has tampered with their personal lives." he said.

But Mr Imasiku admitted that although Zambianisation had been successful in the administrative field it was facing problems in other fields particularly those involving highly technical and professional skills.

He said the root of these problems was that there are not many Zambians with professional and technical skills and also that local training institutions are not able to train sufficient numbers of this calibre of person.

The commissioner also noted that the Zambianisation Bureau faced many problems in implementing its programme.

He said that one of the problems was the tendency of companies including parastatal ones to look down upon locally obtained qualifications, and to doubt the ability of Zambians to assume greater responsibilities.

To substantiate his statement, Mr Imasiku noted that in most advertisements for posts, foreign qualifications are asked for and such qualifications are usually inflated to keep Zambians out.

He suggested that to beat these tricks, Zambia should set its own standards of qualifications for various jobs. He said as the situation stands now employers are left to set standards and some experts called in only come to survey for job opportunities for their compatriots.

Referring to complaints by Zambians that the Zambianisation Bureau was toothless, Mr. Imasiku agreed with some of the criticisms and blamed the situation on technical defects in the law governing the bureau before its recent integration in the Ministry of Labour and Social Services.

The commissioner pointed out that Zambianisation is currently dealt with by two committees, one which is solely responsible for the public sector based at Cabinet Office and another dealing with the private sector, based at the Ministry of Labour and Social Services.

One of the major problems facing the Zambianisation Bureau (the committee based at the ministry) is that of dealing with the Zambianisation of posts held by expatriates brought in on contract.

According to Mr. Imasiku, while the bureau is charged with the responsibility of implementing Zambianisation of these posts, the issue of work permits is handled independently by the Ministry of Home Affairs, which does not consult it.

Often this results in the committee only knowing about the presence of expatriates in the country on the expiry of their first permits when they have to apply for renewal of their contracts through it.

"After a five-year life of an employment permit expires the Ministry of Home Affairs contacts the Ministry of Labour to find out if it is still necessary to retain the expatriate. Since the Ministry of Labour does not know the existence of this expatriate, the company employing this expatriate did not comply with the conditions upon which the permit is issued," he explained.

The commissioner also pointed out that until recently when President Kaunda integrated the bureau into the Ministry of Labour and Social Services, the bureau had no statutory power and depended on a small staff of six based in Lusaka for its operations.

He said the President's decision will benefit the whole programme because officers will now be able to use the powers vested in the ministry when dealing with employers and the bureau will be able to use labour officers throughout the country.

But, perhaps the major question is: Can maladministration, corruption, low productivity, shortages of commodities and nepotism be blamed on Zambianisation?

Mr. Imasiku said that it was not correct to attribute such evils to Zambianisation because the real causes of these could be poor working conditions, low wages and lack of incentives.

However, the most bitter complaints voiced by Zambians have taken shape of charges against the bureau of failure to handle workers holding established

This view was supported by executive director of the Zambia Federation of Employers, Mr. Pansel Sambwe, who said that there was nothing that could be done about residents.

He pointed out, however, that although residents had the opportunity to enjoy expatriate conditions of employment they paid for what they enjoyed because they were not employed on permanent and pensionable conditions.

He felt that there was no peculiar thing about employment of residents as long as they remained law abiding, because like Zambians they are entitled to stay and work in the country.

Mr. Sambwe felt that despite what has been said about the failures of the Zambianisation Committee, significant success had been achieved in the past few years.

He said that his federation fully supports the programme but warned that the only solution to problems was to train more and more Zambian technicians and professionals, because as long as these were scarce, the country will be forced to import experts.

Indeed the Zambianisation issue is quite a controversial one, but probably the best thing for foreigners who complain about it, is for them to remember that nations like individuals must protect themselves. To do this they demand passports, permits and relevant qualifications from those who enter their borders and take measures to ensure that their laws are respected. Zambia cannot be the exception.

As for Zambians, the best thing to remember is that although perseverence wins the race, in the present days of technology, no nation can progress as an island without foreigners in the ranks of its workers.

In the final analysis, it should be qualifications, honesty and hard work which will win the race. Otherwise it is a very shameful thing if because of laziness and irresponsibility among qualified Zambians, posts already Zambianised will have to be de Zambianised as has been the case in the Mechanical Services Branch of the Ministry of Works and Supply.

residents' permits who are alleged to be hampering Zambianisation in various fields.

Commenting on this issue recently, the chairman of the Zambianisation Committee, Mr. John Chafwa, who is the Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Social Services, appealed for a clear cut policy on these workers.

Mr. Chafwa said that while it was easy to Zambianise posts held by expatriates on expiry of their work permits, it was not possible to Zambianise posts held by established residents, because these were allowed to stay in employment as long as they wish.

Commenting on the same issue Dr Sefelino Mulenga, the former cabinet minister in 1977, suggested that to pave the way for Zambianisation, the status of established residents should be reviewed.

He said that such people should take up Zambian citizenship or be employed on permit conditions.

The commissioner of labour confirmed the problems with this category of worker, but said that since residents enjoyed some rights as citizens, there was little that could be done.

END

CSO: 4420

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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT
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WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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